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# The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

FREE

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## Major water main break leaves Allegan citizens without drinking water

By Gari Voss

The Drinking Water Warning came from Allegan’s City Hall on Thursday morning, February 19, 2026. The problems began on Wednesday evening at about 8:30pm when the city water team became aware of a water main break. Water Utilities Department Manager Zac Kortz and his crew began the challenge of mitigating the problem which included turning off water to residents along Marshall Street and beyond.

The water main is one of many that were installed in the 1920s. Kortz shared that the cast iron water mains deteriorate in spots over time. With the freezing, thawing and vibration of the traffic on Marshall Street, the pipe cracked. The crack was horizontal rather than vertical, which made the repair process even worse.

“This is an extraordinary case,” stated Kortz. “Usually when we get water main breaks, they break vertical [across] to the lay of the pipe. This broke horizontal, so lengthwise with the pipe.”

The process to repair the break and get the main back online was believed to cost the city about \$80,000.

By 9am on Thursday, the Water Department team had

done what they could at the break, but the water flow continued so the pipe could not be reached and repaired properly. Teams had begun fanning out in concentric circles to locate valves which could be closed to stop the flow of water to the break. Kortz voiced the difficulty because when valves were located, they were not working properly. Some valves turned but would not fully close off the water flow, or the valve was so old that it would not turn.

The decision was made to install new valves on both sides of the break to stop the flow of water through the main. By noon, the Marshall Street site had employed a concrete cutter who could take off the layers of asphalt and cement to reach the pipe. Once the new valves were installed, the focus could turn to removing water from the hole in order to repair the break.

Many residents in the Rossman Park neighborhood had no water, while majority of the City of Allegan, except the Eastern Avenue and Main and River Street areas, had reduced water pressure. When a water main breaks, the water pressure in the system drops. Because of the lower pressure, bacteria can grow quickly.

Throughout the process,



The water main break on Marshall Street near the Robinson Inn began Wed., Feb. 18, 2026.

Kortz took water samples across the city. Until results of the samples came back showing no coliform bacteria or e Coli, the City of Allegan requested that all follow the Drinking Water Warning with instructions on how to boil water for at least one minute then cool it before using it for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, washing dishes, or for pets.

Once the paved sections of Marshall Street were removed, barricades were erected at 26th Street and at the downtown roundabout to detour traffic away from Marshall Street.

On Saturday afternoon, Feb. 21, the Boil Water Request was lifted for all but the Rossman Park and Swan/Bridge neighborhoods that had been

heavily affected by the water main runoff. The barricades remained until the payment repairs could be properly completed.

**The Response**

When the alarm went out on Wednesday night and Thursday morning regarding the water main break and the shut off of water along Marshall Street, responses had to be initiated.

Allegan Public Schools. One of the quickest responses was by Allegan Public Schools. Pine Trails Elementary sits in the affected area. With no water, children could not be held in classrooms. The plan was to transport students to the Performing Arts Center at Allegan High School. Parents pulled around the back of the high school and

were able to be united with their children. Parents and caregivers responded quickly, and by noon, students were settled. Pine Trails Elementary remained closed on Friday, Feb. 20, 2026.

Tantrick Brewing Co. Taproom went into action and offered boiled water and even unboiled water for flushing toilets, etc.

The City of Allegan reminded the public that restrooms at City Hall and on the Riverfront were open from 7am-11pm seven days a week. On Saturday, the city set up additional potable water pickup stations at Labyrinth Park, the Pickleball Courts, and next to McDonald’s. People living in those areas and were without water could stop by the nearest

location to pick up a case of water between 1:30pm-6pm. After door-to-door delivery to houses without any water service was completed, 30 cases of water remained at City Hall for the public affected by the Boil Water Advisory to pick up.

On the evening of Sunday, February 22, 2026, word went out via texts and social media that all water had been restored, and no bacteria had been detected in the samples. City Hall thanked everyone for their patience.

The entire ordeal took less than four days thanks to water utility crews working 24/7. Most of Allegan was back online with safe water by Saturday. The fact of the matter is that this is the area of Allegan that will have a major overhaul of infrastructure and new pavement with construction beginning this spring. The city planners have been well aware that the infrastructure was aging out and of the importance of making improvements.

There will be many complaints throughout the summer as streets are closed and residents must find alternative routes home, but the current situation may lessen the feeling of inconvenience knowing that the project is necessary.

BY JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

A 13-year-old boy was taken into custody after allegedly shooting two female students with a splatter gun inside Plainwell Middle School on Thursday, Feb. 19, according to the Plainwell Department of Public Safety.

Officials say the incident took place at approximately 3:30 p.m. after the suspect

was involved in a confrontation with a 12-year-old female who attended Plainwell Middle School.

The suspect does not attend Plainwell Community Schools. Rather, he was the guest of a Plainwell student and was at the school to watch a family member play in a basketball game.

“During the altercation, the juvenile male suspect retrieved a splatter ball gun from his

backpack and fired multiple projectiles at the juvenile female victim,” officials said in a statement. “The juvenile male suspect then became involved in a second argument with another juvenile female victim and shot her multiple times in the neck and back with the same device.”

According to the Plainwell Department of Public Safety, a splatter ball gun is “a replica-style toy gun designed

to fire small gel-based, water-filled pellets.”

“Although not a firearm, these devices closely resemble real guns and are capable of causing pain and injury,” officials said. “Any object resembling a weapon inside a school is treated as a serious safety concern.”

Neither victim suffered significant injuries and both were able to identify the suspect.

The suspect was taken into

custody without further incident and, after being questioned, was released to a parent.

An appearance date in juvenile court has not yet been set, as the suspect is a Barry County resident and is being referred through that county’s juvenile system. However, a juvenile petition will be forwarded to the Allegan County Family Court for review.

Possible charges could include:

- Weapon-Free School Zone
- Possession of a Weapon
- Assault and Battery
- Reckless Endangerment
- Disorderly Conduct
- Disturbing the Peace at a School

The students involved are safe, and support is being offered as needed. We extend our gratitude to PPS for their swift response.

“Plainwell Community Schools prioritizes the safety of students and staff, and we will conduct a thorough review of the incident to assess whether security measures and procedures for after-school events require adjustments.

“We appreciate your ongoing support for our students and staff.”

Tiffany Lettinga said her daughter was one of the victims.

“She thought it was real, yes,” Lettinga told WOOD TV. “She said, ‘Mom, if that was a real gun, would I have been dead?’ And I told her, ‘Where you were shot?’ Yes.”

## Two Allegan Tech Center students honored for life-saving actions

Two students connected to the Allegan Tech Center were formally recognized at a recent Allegan Area ESA Board of Education meeting for their heroic, life-saving actions that demonstrate the real-world impact of career and technical education.

Christian Nichols and Tessa Dyer, both current or former students in the Tech Center’s Criminal Justice and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) programs, were honored for their quick thinking and professionalism during a medical emergency in early January 2026. Nicholas attends Allegan Public Schools while Dyer graduated from Allegan Online in 2024.

While at work, Nichols and Dyer encountered a situation in which a co-worker collapsed and became unresponsive. As emergency protocols were activated and Central Dispatch was contacted, the two students immediately relied on their training from the Tech Center. They began performing CPR and continued life-saving efforts until paramedics from Life EMS arrived on scene.

Because of their decisive actions and calm response under pressure, the co-worker survived the medical emergency and has since made a full recovery.

Both students asked that special



John Pinkster, Life EMS, Jodie McLean, Tech Center Teacher - EMS, Christian Nichols, Markie McGowen, Life EMS, Mark Lytle, Tech Center Teacher - Criminal Justice. (Not pictured, Tessa Dyer)

recognition be given to their EMS instructor, Jodie McLean, crediting her instruction and guidance for equipping them with the skills and confidence needed to respond effectively in a real-life emergency. They shared that without the training and preparation provided through the EMS program,

their actions that day would not have been possible.

Awards were presented during the meeting by Markie McGowen alongside McLean who are affiliated with Life EMS and the Allegan Tech Center, respectively.

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Harness racing has been a crowd favorite at the Allegan County Fair. Over the years, the daily races have been relegated to only two days, but with House Bills (HB) 4346-4348, the horse racing and county fair industries could receive a revitalization. Photo: Allegan County Fair video archive

# Will harness racing return to fairgrounds?

By Gari Voss

The Allegan County Fair has offered harness racing on the track to increase

attendance. At one time, harness racing was offered on numerous days with parimutuel betting along with friendly wages made

between those in the stands. Currently, only two days feature harness racing with Michigan-sired 2 year olds and 3 year olds.

Some sources say that county fairs were held together with harness racing. When betting was taken out of the mix, the crowds

thinned. When racing was not supported at the state level, some fairs dropped harness racing completely because there were no funds to improve tracks or pay premiums.

At this time, the fair and horse racing industries are looking for public support. In 2025-2026, Michigan began considering a legislative package (HB 4346-4348) to revitalize the horse racing industry by amending the Horse Racing Law of 1995.

The bills propose increasing funding for standardbred harness racing at county fairs, increasing purses using the Agriculture and Equine Industry Development Fund, and strengthening requirements for Michigan-bred horses.

Key 2025-2026 Horse Racing Legislation (HB 4346-4348) include:

•**Funding Focus:** The bills aim to allocate at least 18% of the Agriculture and Equine Industry Development Fund (AEIDF) to standardbred harness racing, with significant support for county fairs holding such events.

•**Structural Changes:** They propose removing language regarding Appaloosa, Arabian, and Paint horse programs to focus on standardbred and thoroughbred racing [2, 14, BillTrack50].

•**Industry Support:** Legislation, such as HB 4347, seeks to allow 100% funding for purses from the AEIDF and modernize regulations following the closure of Northville Downs in 2024.

•**Status:** As of early 2026, the legislative package, backed by a bipartisan group, is pending, with discussions regarding its progress in the House.

Harness racers and county fair leaders are encouraging legislators to pass these bills. Allegan County and the Allegan County Fair would be impacted positively. But previously efforts like a 2021 Senate proposal to legalize Historical Horse Racing (HHR) did not revitalize horse racing or the fair industry did not pass the House and Senate.

In an interview with Wood TV8, Executive Director Saree Miller shared the history and importance of harness racing that had a home at the Allegan County Fair.

“Harness racing is kind of where fairs began; it was the entertainment,” stated Miller. “It is great. It’s history. It’s agricultural education. It’s fun. It’s excitement.”

The daily races would bring in crowds, which, in turn, kept food vendors busy, along with staff, before families arrived later in the evening.

There is a reality to having four-legged animals racing around the track oval on a daily basis. “Keeping the track ready for the equine athletes requires consistent care. Major repairs can be expensive,” Miller added. “Our track was a little bit soft in some areas, and it was making it hard for safety. You need a firm underneath [with] a little bit of dirt on top, so the horses have a soft, yet a firm hold. Ours had some washouts, so we needed to redo it. It was \$110,000 to redo our track to fix everything up.”

Support from House bills 4346 and 4347 could assist in regaining some of the investment. The first bill would remove the cap on the amount of tax revenue

collected from legal internet gaming and provide 4% to the state’s agricultural equine industry development fund.

The second bill would revise the amount of financial support offered by the fund to the entities that host different types of horse racing, such as county fairs.

“Those will add more money into the equine funds to help the fairs, which in turn helps the harness racing because then everything can offer a little bigger premium,” Miller said.

When financial support from the state was reduced, Miller explained that there was a gap. However, the fair kept the races on the schedule because of its popularity with certain crowds.

“Probably 2 to 3 thousand people are in the stands,” shared Miller. “It’s meeting up with your neighbors and making the quarter bets on the side just for fun.”

The bills could be meaningful to the harness racing community at large. Brett Boyd, president of Michigan Harness Horsemen’s Association, comes from three generations of the sport.

“I tell everybody that being part of this business is equal to, or is the closest thing to, watching your own son or daughter that you’ve been playing basketball outside with and then you go see him execute and hit that three-pointer at the buzzer,” he said. “It’s the same exhilaration, same pride that you see when you win a horse race, especially with one of the youngsters that you raised on your farm right from the beginning. It’s very gratifying.”

The bill package has a sponsor coalition of six Democratic state representatives and 10 Republicans. Part of the legislation supports funding opportunities for all fairs, not just those with racetracks. With a decrease in the number of tracks in the state and revenue opportunities for fairgrounds, Boyd voiced hope for the future of both communities.

“It’s a partnership that’s been around for a long time, and this bill is just a rekindling of that partnership to benefit our fairs and our horsemen,” Boyd told News 8.

Boyd added that there’s also the wider economic market from vets caring for horses to the grain and feed sold for the animals. But there’s still procedures to travel before the bills becomes law — Boyd said it is up to Republican Speaker of the House Matt Hall.

“It is truly in Speaker Hall’s hands at this point, and he’s surrounded by a lot of county fairs that have shown their interest,” Body stated. “Obviously, our horsemen have been talking to him, and speaker Hall is surrounded by a lot of folks in that caucus that support our industry and these bills. So, we’re very, very optimistic that this is going to move forward.”

Those interested in reaching out to state leaders regarding HB 4346-4348 can contact State senators, Aric Nesbitt (R) - Senate Republican Leader from District 20 and Roger Victory (R) from District 31. Plus, Michigan State House Representatives Rachelle Smit (R) from District 43 and Matt Hall (R) - Speaker of the House from District 42.



# Salute to Firefighters:

## Protecting Allegan County with Courage and Commitment

Across Allegan County, firefighters stand ready at a moment’s notice. Whether responding to structure fires, medical emergencies, traffic accidents, or severe weather events, these men and women serve with courage, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to public safety.

Fire service in Allegan County often represents the best of community spirit. Many departments rely on a combination of full-time and volunteer firefighters who balance careers, family life, and personal responsibilities while remaining prepared to answer the call. When sirens sound, they leave dinner tables, workplaces, and warm beds to respond wherever they are needed.

Their work goes far beyond extinguishing fires. Firefighters provide emergency medical care, assist during vehicle crashes, conduct water res-

cues, and support hazardous material responses. They also dedicate countless hours to training, ensuring they are equipped to handle situations that are often unpredictable and dangerous. Behind every emergency response is preparation, teamwork, and a shared sense of duty.

Prevention and education are equally important parts of the job. Firefighters visit schools, host open houses, and teach residents about fire safety, smoke detectors, and emergency preparedness. These efforts help reduce risks before emergencies occur and strengthen the connection between departments and the communities they serve.

The role carries significant physical and emotional demands. Firefighters face high-risk situations and challenging circumstances, yet they continue to serve with steady resolve. Their

presence during moments of crisis brings reassurance and stability to families experiencing some of their most difficult days.

Fire departments also play a central role in community life. From parades and charity events to holiday programs and local fundraisers, firefighters remain visible and engaged throughout the year. Their commitment extends well beyond emergency response, reflecting a deep dedication to the people of Allegan County.

At the Allegan County News, Commercial Record, and Union Enterprise, we proudly salute the firefighters who protect our towns and rural communities. Today, we honor their bravery, their sacrifice, and their steadfast service. Their readiness, resilience, and compassion help keep Allegan County safe, strong, and united.

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# Retiree tells council shut down could have been avoided, City believes break, shutoff were handled correctly

By Gari Voss

The February 23, 2026, meeting of the Allegan City Council proved to be a mixed bag of the ongoing items with reading of ordinances, commission updates, future planning, and reviewing the Marshall Street water main break. The city’s response to the break was emphasized at the beginning of the meeting with a concern from a retired water utility worker who felt that if retired employees had been consulted, the response would have been less involved and less costly. The break was then addressed at the end of the meeting with a review of the steps taken and some lessons learned.

### FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

The First Reading of Ordinance 536 to rezone Parcel 03-51-251-041-00 from TN-2 Transitional Residential Neighborhood District to PUD Planned Unit Development District was reviewed and a second reading and public hearing was scheduled for March 09, 2026. This parcel is for housing comprised of a 3-story, 52-unit apartment complex on Lowe Street and marketed to work-force housing. Woda Cooper will be applying for a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) approval along with some low-income tax credits through the state of Michigan. The Zoning Commission had voted unanimously to approve the rezoning with the understanding that Woda would submit a full development plan with all the engineering studies, lighting, etc. for approval by the city staff. The request for the public meeting and second reading to be held March 9, 2026, was approved.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS & ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

**Public Hearing, Second Reading and adoption of Ordinance 535** to approve a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) in the amount of 3% for Parcel 03-51-251-041-00. 9. The motion passed. This means that the city will receive 3% of the rent income minus the utilities in lieu of property taxes. Council Mayor Pro Tem Hanse requested a calculation of the difference between the 3% and the taxed base. Dye explained it would be about \$20,000 per year. Dye added that depends upon footage of the building. This would be the city’s 5<sup>th</sup> PILOT project.

Discussion was held regarding determining eligible renters. Craig Patterson of Woda explained there will be a background check of renters to ensure that they fall within the threshold for income base. In addition, he shared that without a PILOT, the company would not receive funding. The equity price has dropped over the years, which has made a difference investments recuperated. Water and sewer are under a master meter, but the tenants can pay for utilities according to MI State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).

### PUBLIC COMMENT

David Sturgis from Bridge Road shared his concerns regarding the water main break on Marshall Street. He felt that the water director and crew did well, but there was a shut down that should not have happened if the correct valves were turned. Sturgis is a retired water employee and could have shown the crew what could be done. He felt that the repairs should have been done within 3 hours without the excavation of Marshall Street, but he felt that City Manager Dye did not respect the knowledge of employees.

Christopher Burnett introduced himself as running for the position of judge of the 57<sup>th</sup> District Court to which he had been appointed and is holding at this time. As a lifelong resident of Allegan, he is invested in Allegan, the businesses and city life. Over time, he has served on boards, worked for companies, and worked in the court system. He feels ready to continue as judge of the 57<sup>th</sup> District Court.

### PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

**The Allegan District Library** requested a waiver of park rental fees for the use of the Hanson Park Gazebo for two summer reading program sessions which occur on July 8 and August 12, 2026, from 10 AM to 11 AM. The request was approved.

### REPORTS

**City Boards**  
**Downtown Development Authority.** The DDA reviewed Wayfinding Sign options then moved on to snow removal and recycling fees. The group will consider options for these programs. It has been a snow laden winter and, when budgeting, estimates need to be explored. In addition, people are using the city trash receptacles incorrectly and contaminating the trash which means the city is charged a higher fee when the receptacles are emptied. The question arises of how to recuperate the additional charges. The Business Resource Team subcommittee was tasked as a “welcome wagon” for businesses. The subcommittee is comprised of business owners who can assist prospective businesses in understanding what it is like when opening a business in Allegan. By using real business owners, the questions can be better answered for those who are seriously considering locating in Allegan. Potential individuals have already spoken with members of the resource team.

**Public Spaces Commission.** The commission decided to move the community cleanup day to the spring with a focus on Oakwood Cemetery, specifically, the areas around the chapel and along fencelines. It is a large piece of property to clean up, and it was decided to stay away from the headstones which would need a tremendous amount of work. Friday, May 15, 9am – 2pm was set, so city staff could provide hands and equipment. The rain date will be May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The group was also updated on the improvement to the

Griswold Auditorium.  
**Zoning Board of Appeals.** The Board approved a variance request for 47 Wayne Street. Though several residents spoke against the approval, based on the findings, the board felt comfortable approving the request because what the owner was requesting would return the land in question back to the original split set 100 years ago.

**Planning Commission.** The Commission reviewed the request by Woda Cooper to rezone the parcel on Lowe Street to a Planned Unit Development (PUD). The members voted to ask the City Council to hold a first reading on Feb. 23, 2026. In addition, the Commission discussed Shane Clemens’ desire to establish a potential tiny home development at 210 Russell Street. The Commission reminded Clemens that the development must add value to the neighborhood, and it must meet all requirements in the zoning ordinance including a full development plan.

### Public Safety

The conversation centered on a request to approve a budget adjustment for downtown winter maintenance. The increase is for sidewalk maintenance. Currently, the city is \$20,000 over budget and will need another \$10,000 over budget before winter ends. When reviewing the costs of sidewalk plowing and deicing from 2022-23 to 2025-26, the costs went from \$15,431 (2022-23) to \$11,400 (2023-24) to \$41,200 (2024-25) to \$47,800 (currently in 2025-26). A less snowy year was used for determining the \$27,500 budget figure, so a look needs to be given to a heavier year when budgeting along with a discussion with downtown businesses regarding their responsibilities according to code. The request to make the budget adjustment of \$30,000 was approved.

Conversation focused on the fact that the city is picking up the cost of sidewalk snow removal which happened back in 2016-17 when there were more empty storefronts and many businesses were not clearing their sidewalks. According to city ordinance, all businesses and residences are responsible for clearing their sidewalks, but the city is currently clearing all of the walks.

In addition, discussion moved to the recycling contamination that has increased payments for trash removal. Thought needs to be given to the best solution. It is important to educate users, so the contamination is not done – no shred paper or plastic bags or pizza boxes or things with grease. More conversation and decisions need to be made.

**Administrative Services**  
**Accounts Payable & Payroll.** The request to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$139,549.10 and payroll in the amount of \$113,969.54 for a total disbursement of \$253,518.64 passed.  
**Review of the January 2026 Revenue and**

**Expenditure Report.** The financials are included in each Council Packet as a point of information. Hanse thanked the finance director for updates of the finances in each meeting packet.

**Request to adopt Resolution 26.07.** The resolution of determination regarding the single lot assessments that are eligible to be added to the Tax Year 2026 tax roll was approved. The list had been shared numerous times during previous meetings. This will allow the costs of city work to be added to tax rolls for the properties in question. The resolution passed.

### Griswold Auditorium Update

Parker Johnson updated the Council on the Griswold Auditorium capital improvements and renovation proposals. In 2025, Allegan had partnered with Vintage Building & Restoration to do tuckpointing, window frame replacement and repainting, roof installation at the main entrance, fire escape welding and repainting, and interior plaster and painting. The work was completed about \$34,000 under budget. The City again partnered with the Allegan Lions Club to perform *Esplanada in the Moonlight* which garnered \$5,450 thanks to a hold-over weekend. In December 2025, City staff learned that their grant application to the Allegan County Community Foundation (ACCF) for \$8,000 for Marilla Lounge renovation had been approved.

Currently, the City staff is working with The Speckled Dahlia, an Allegan-based interior designer, and Kugelard Construction for ideas to redesign Marilla Lounge into a space for intimate gatherings, small entertainment acts, and concession service for productions and larger meetings. In addition, the desire is to make the Griswold front entrance ADA compliant. And finally, the plan is to improve the event sign in front of the auditorium.

Johnson shared that the ADA entry would cost about \$161,949.50, the LED sign \$62,000, and the Lounge Upgrade \$50,400 for a Total of \$274,349.50. The available funding that is secure is the Faske fund of \$111,111.11, the ACCF grant of \$8,000, the Lions Fundraiser of \$5,450.00, and the City carryover \$34,208.00 for a total of \$158,769.11.

There are potential funds of \$140,000 from a MACC Grant, \$10,000 from the Art of Allegan fundraiser on March 14, 2026, \$50,000 from a T-Mobile Grant, and \$50,000 from the City of Allegan FY27 Capital

Improvements.

No decisions were required at the meeting, but additional thoughts were welcome. Beyond the current improvements, thoughts were given regarding adding another ADA restroom by taking space from the office. Questions regarding using suggestions from previous studies were voiced. In addition, there were questions regarding the use of outside promoters for the Griswold to make improvements and maintenance more sustainable. There will be other necessary capital improvements like the HVAC system. If an elevator was added on the west side of the building to get to all levels, it would include a crosswalk to load in/load out scenery to the side of the stage. The staff will continue moving along with the plan.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Joel Dye reminded the Council that **Art in Allegan** will be on March 14, 2026, the schedule is set from 9am-6pm. The organizers are still looking for volunteers from the city.

**Water main break** – Dye walked the Council through the steps that occurred from Wednesday night, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> when the water break was discovered to Sunday when the Boil Water Alert was lifted. City crews worked through the night to isolate the break, but many valves were unable to be found or when found did not work properly. This was a longitudinal break, and numerous breaks were found when the holes cut in the pavement revealed more of the pipe. Dye thanked the water utility department and all other departments that stepped forward to assist. That included answering questions over the phone

and in person, setting up water stations, and filling in as needed.

Hanse requested a comprehensive report on costs and on how valves would be identified and monitored in the future. Discussion ensued regarding better ways to distribute important information. Johnson shared that residents did begin setting up the City Alert on their phones. Fire Chief Nick Brink offered their emergency alert system which could isolate those living in an identified area. Dye assured that many of their questions would be covered during debriefing.

Dye informed the Council that Zac Kortz has been named as the water utility director, has completed the training, and will be moving forward in that position. Chad Fulton was brought from public works to the Water Treatment Plant. Kyle Gleason was moved into the assistant director position of DPW. There is still one open position in the water utilities department.

### ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Will Walker offered to take the plastic water bottles at Broken Arrow for recycling at no charge.

Carl Canales shared that it was great how everyone worked together to take care of the problems.

Melanie Hooker again thanked the city staff for working together, including Tantrick Brewing. Because she had tapped into the city announcement system, she had all the information come to her phone on a timely basis.

Mayor Perrigo gave a final thanks to the staff and Zac’s professionalism on the evening news. She voiced that it was an inconvenience, but there are worse inconveniences in life.

## They’re in Good Hands, Here

From puppies and kittens to senior pets, our caring and experienced team is here to provide your pet with the very best care and a compassionate touch.

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**Dr. Chris Buckley**  
and welcoming  
**Dr. Melinda Kelley**

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## TOGETHER WE GIVE.

**March 19, 2026**  
**TIME, TALENT, TREASURE**

Come explore our **Volunteer Fair**, showcasing many nonprofits around Allegan County at **The Silo in Allegan** from 12-2pm.

Donate to your favorite nonprofit fund at ACCF on March 19th and **have your gift DOUBLED!** All donations up to a total of **\$61,000** will be matched.



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Meet the Yoga & Wellness Education Team

- Brittany Smith
- Christina Smith
- Christina Smith
- Christina Smith





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Community Calendar - Week of February 23, 2026

Event information can be sent to: [wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com](mailto:wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com)

### EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

**Sun. – Sat. 5-9pm: Warming Station when temp below 32 degrees - Community Action of Allegan County** 323 Water St. Allegan. Come for a warm spot and a simple meal.  
**Now – Feb. 28, 2026: Peanut Butter Drive.** Celebrate by donating jars of peanut butter or making monetary donations toward a bulk purchase peanut butter for the Allegan Co. Food Pantry Collaborative. Contact Hungry for Christ 269-264-1307 or Allegan County Community Foundation 269-673-8344.  
**Apply Now, due April 1, 2026:** Allegan County Fair Agricultural Society Scholarship Fund applications are available for applicants who have participated in exhibiting at the Allegan County Fair for three out of four of their high school years. [https://allegancountyfair.com/fair\\_bite/2026-scholarship-application/](https://allegancountyfair.com/fair_bite/2026-scholarship-application/)  
**Fri., Feb. 27, 2026: Library Fun.** Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
**1pm: Pals with Paws, Meet & Greet.** All ages can meet Paws With a Cause future service and assistance dogs  
**Sat., Feb. 28, 2026, 11am-2pm: Ribbon Cutting & Open House.** Bound and Boarded 136 Brady St. Allegan  
**Sat., Feb. 28, 2026, 12-3pm: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual ACFP Soup Off.** Allegan Eagles 2315 110 Chestnut St. Allegan  
**Sat., Feb. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Plant Bingo!** Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan  
**Sun., Mar. 1, 2026, 2-4pm: Williams Family Bluegrass Sunday.** First Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan  
**Sun., Mar. 1, 2026, 3pm: River Cities Concert Band – Remembrance.** Plainwell High School 684 Starr Rd., Plainwell

### CURRENT EVENTS

**Wed., Feb. 25, 2026, 10am: Play Café**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Ages 0-7 can drop in and have fun playing while caregivers enjoy a warm beverage.  
**Wed., Feb. 25, 2026, 11am-3pm: House of the Rising Song Café**  
1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan  
Come during lunch and listen to great music, have lunch, bring your knitting or a guitar and join the open jam session. Music calms the soul.  
**Wed., Feb. 25, 2026, Noon: Active Community Gathering**  
Friendship Wesleyan Church 1285 102<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Plainwell  
Join this gathering of local network members to share stories of connection, discuss relevant updates, and explore ways we can work together to serve our community more effectively. All are welcome. RSVP at (269) 685-9491.

**Wed., Feb. 25, 2026, 6:30pm: The History of the Great Lakes in 12 Shipwrecks**  
MI Maritime Museum 260 Dyckman Ave. So. Haven  
Join maritime historian, author, and underwater explorer Valerie van Heest to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States by exploring one dozen shipwrecks that together provide an overview of not only the history of the Great Lakes.  
**Thurs., Feb. 26, 2026, 10:30am: Preschool Storytime**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Ages 3-5 can drop in for stories and activities.  
**Thurs., Feb. 26, 2026, 6-8pm: Euchre Night**  
Lynx Golf Course 900 Lincoln Rd. Otsego  
Nightly buy in, includes season ending tournament pot if meeting minimum participation. First hand dealt at 6pm, play from 6-8pm with 5 game minimum per night. Blind draw for partner each game.  
**Fri., Feb. 27, 2026: Library Fun**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
**1pm: Pals with Paws, Meet & Greet.** All ages can meet Paws With a Cause future service and assistance dogs, and learn about their mission and how to become raisers.  
**6pm: Teen Nerf Night.** Register at 269 673-4625 to have friendly competition around the library stacks.

**Fri., Feb. 27, 2026, 5-7pm: Fish Fry**  
Blessed Sacrament Church 110 N. Cedar St. Allegan  
Dine in or take out a meal and enjoy food, fun raffles and good company.  
**Fri., Feb. 27, 2026, 4:30-8pm: Fish FRYday**  
Lynx Golf Course 900 Lincoln Rd. Otsego  
Enjoy all you can eat fried pollack, fries, coleslaw and bread.  
**Fri., Feb. 27, 2026, 7-9pm: Euchre Night**  
Girl Scout Heart of MI 601 W. Maple St. Kalamazoo  
The Plainwell Education Foundation hosts Euchre Night with all funds going to fund Teacher Mini-Grants, classroom resources and innovative learning opportunities for Plainwell Community Schools students. Light dinner provided; bring your own beverage. Register at [https://allegan.fcsuite.com/crp/donate/create/tickets?event\\_date\\_id=3805](https://allegan.fcsuite.com/crp/donate/create/tickets?event_date_id=3805).

**Sat., Feb. 28, 2026, 11am: Jumpstart your Genealogy**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Genealogist Megan Heyl will guide all ages in how to hunt down and organize family history.  
**Sat., Feb. 28, 2026, 11am-2pm: Ribbon Cutting & Open House**  
Bound and Boarded 136 Brady St. Allegan  
Celebrate the Grand Opening of one of Allegan’s newest businesses and peruse their many offerings.

**Sat., Feb. 28, 2026, 12-3pm: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual ACFP Soup Off**  
Allegan Eagles 2315 110 Chestnut St. Allegan  
Get ready for a fun-filled day of friendly competition, raffles, and—most importantly—supporting the Allegan Co. Food Pantry’s mission to help feed people in our community. Learn more and enter your soup at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1381832343642999>.

**Sat., Feb. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Plant Bingo!**  
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Sponsored by Eccentric Garden Plant Shop. Play with plant friends and win great prizes. Receive a plant, participate in the Rare Plant Raffle, and play 10 rounds of bingo with 3 winners per round.  
**Sun., Mar. 1, 2026, 2-4pm: Bluegrass Sunday**  
First Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan  
The Williams Family Trio will assist the Rev. Jay Ayers with some Old Time Religion with a light soup supper after the service. All are welcome.

**Sun., Mar. 1, 2026, 3pm: River Cities Concert Band – Remembrance**  
Plainwell High School 684 Starr Rd., Plainwell  
All are invited to a free will concert by the River Cities Concert Band with director David J. Hubbard, Master of Ceremonies Mark Olson, and Guest Narrator Dan Bushouse. Sponsors are Carolyn Graham Private Lesson Studio and Honorary Member Michael Andres.

**Mon., Mar. 2, 2026, 6pm: Teen Game Night**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Teens grades 6-12 are welcome to play digital games on computers or our gaming console; or choose from an assortment of card, dice, and board games. You can also bring your own games! Snacks will be provided.

**Tues., Mar. 3, 2026, 10:30am: Lapsit Storytime**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Ages 0-2 and their caregivers can enjoy stories and activities.

**Wed., Mar 4, 2026: Library Fun**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
**6pm: Bilingual Storytime –** Ages 0-7 and their families can enjoy books in English & Spanish  
**6pm: Pintesting: Herbarium Bottles –** Register at 269 673-4625 to craft & chat while making Herbarium Bottles.

**Wed., Mar. 4, 2026, 6-8pm: Hummingbird Feeder**  
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd, Allegan  
Create a hummingbird feeder and think spring. Register at [brave.art.carr@gmail.com](mailto:brave.art.carr@gmail.com).

**Thurs., Mar. 5, 2026, 10:30am: Preschool Storytime**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Ages 2-5 can drop in to enjoy stories and activities.

**Fri., Mar. 6, 2026, 6pm: Teen Tech Night**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Teens grades 6-12 can register at 269 673-4625 and experience virtual reality, explore 3-D printing and play video games after hours.

**Sat., Mar. 7, 2026, 6-9pm: Mardi Gras Fundraiser**  
Fenn Valley Winery 6130 122<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Fennville  
The Fennville, Pullman Lakeshore Rotary will host a fun evening with drinks and dinner for \$75. For info, contact Kim 616 240-0709; <https://tinyurl.com/fplmg26>

**Sat., Mar. 7, 2026, 7pm: Timeless at Sherwood’s Cove**  
Sherwood’s Cove 132 Brady St. Allegan  
Enjoy a night of acoustic covers from the 1960s on by Timeless.

**Mon., Mar. 9, 2026: Library Fun**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
**10am: Splash, Splash Stories @AAC –** Ages 0-7 can call 269 673-7002 X5504 to register then grab your bathing suit and swim your way into a good story at the Allegan Aquatic Center! Enjoy a time of silly tales and songs. Afterwards, splash with your family and friends in the pool!  
**6pm: Why Are All These Irish Songs in English? –** Register at 269 673-4625 to explore how traditional music flows freely between people.

**Tues., Mar. 10, 2026, 9am: Coffee for Vets**  
Immanuel Lutheran Church 631 Grand St. Allegan  
ALL veterans who have served or are currently serving in our military forces are welcome to coffee. This is a time to gather, have fellowship with other vets, share conversation, and enjoy coffee and donuts/rolls. Please come and see what this is all about and share this with others you feel might like to come. Questions? Please, call (269)673-3335.

**Tues., Mar. 10, 2026: Library Fun**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
**10:30am: Lapsit Storytime –** 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.  
**6:30pm: Book Club –** Drop in on a discussion of *Kaikeyi* by Valshnavi Patel.

**Wed., Mar. 11, 2026: Recess for Adults**  
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan  
Drop in and have fun with adults from the Arc of Allegan.

### ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

#### ASSISTANCE

**Addiction Support Group, Thursdays 7-8pm**  
1900 Lincoln Road, Allegan  
Come as you are.  
**Adventist Community Service Center**  
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm  
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7<sup>th</sup>-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

**Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living**  
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, [www.communityactionallegan.org](http://www.communityactionallegan.org), (269) 673-5472  
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

**Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.**  
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080  
[www.alleganhomelessolutions.org](http://www.alleganhomelessolutions.org), Email: [info@alleganhomelessolutions.org](mailto:info@alleganhomelessolutions.org)

**The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities**  
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841  
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

**Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies**  
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan  
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

**Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance**  
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166  
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.  
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm  
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm  
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

**Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More**  
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254  
Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

**Grief Support Groups**  
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4<sup>th</sup> Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvinos’s 1290 M89, Plainwell.

**Interfaith Sunday Services**  
Mothers Trust is a nonprofit that is offering inclusive, interfaith worship services open to all Sundays at 11am at 6676 122<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Fennville. Information: Megan Hybels 269 312-0369, [megan\\_h@motherstrust.org](mailto:megan_h@motherstrust.org)

**Love, Inc.**  
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135<sup>th</sup> Ave. Hamilton  
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit [www.loveincnwa.org](http://www.loveincnwa.org)., email: [office@loveincnwa.org](mailto:office@loveincnwa.org).

**People Helping People of Pullman**  
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

**Safe Harbor Children’s Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing**  
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 [www.safeharborcac.org](http://www.safeharborcac.org), (269) 673-3791

**St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More**  
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego  
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm  
Food pantry and limited financial aid. [Dtvincntdepaul9005@gmail.com](mailto:Dtvincntdepaul9005@gmail.com)  
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

**Sylvia’s Place - Safe from Domestic Violence**  
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

**United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing**  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm  
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

**Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care**  
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, [www.wingsof-hopehospice.com](http://www.wingsof-hopehospice.com), (269) 686-8659

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[atechccs.com](http://atechccs.com)



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A Film by Emerald Fennell

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Friday, Feb. 27 - Thursday, March 5

7pm Feature • \$5 – Sat. & Sun. 2pm Matinee • \$4

Mondays - 2-for-1 Admission • Tuesdays- 25 cent Popcorn

## FLASHBACK FRIDAY!

The General (1926) Fri., Feb. 27 @ 9:30pm • \$5

Allegan United Methodist Church

## SHOE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

March 2 – April 30

Collecting: **gently used or new** men, women and children’s shoes (shoes, boots, sandals, flip flops, team sport, etc.)

Donations may be placed in boxes located at:  
Ace Hardware | Allegan Credit Union | Family Farm and Home  
Huntington Bank | Westside Auto of Allegan

Or bring to:  
**Allegan United Methodist Church**  
(409 Trowbridge Street)





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OBITUARIES

Barbara Kay Marr

Barbara Kay Marr, age 86, of Allegan passed away Tuesday, February 17th, 2026 at Briarwood Assisted Living in Allegan. Barb was born February 15, 1940 in Bedford Indiana, daughter of the late Robert and Ruby Conner and had lived in the Allegan area the past 45 years. Prior to that while living in Kalamazoo Barb served as Trustee for both the Kalamazoo Public and Intermediate School districts. In the mid 1980's Barb and her late husband Gene purchased their farm in Cheshire Township, later to become Marr Haven Wool Farm where they shepherded sheep until 2015. She was a founding member of Michigan Fiber Festival and remained active within



Barbara Kay Marr

the organization for many years. Barb loved the Lord and was an active member of Corner Bible Church where she greatly enjoyed women's fellowship. Surviving is her son Kevin (Donna) Marr; sister

Sanna (Eric) Ditsler; nieces, Carol (Paul) Lyons and Christa (Steve) Gotshall along with several cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband Harold "Gene" Marr and her parents. Following her wishes cremation has taken place. The family will meet friends on Friday, February 27th from noon until time of memorial service at 1pm at the Corner Bible Church, Allegan, Pastor Davis Moore officiating. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Corner Bible Church. Arrangements entrusted to the Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com.

Donald Jerry Dam

Donald Jerry Dam, 89, of Allegan, MI passed away Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at Alamo Nursing Home in Kalamazoo. Born October 11, 1936 in Kalamazoo, he was the son of the late Albert and Mildred (Commans) Dam and was the husband of Sally Jo (Baas) Dam. Donald was a life member of First Reformed Church in Allegan. He had worked forty-four years for Delano Service, Inc. prior to retirement. Donald and Sally were also the owners and operators of D & S Cleaning. Together they had provided services in the form of commercial cleaning, snow plowing and lawn care to many buildings in Allegan throughout their forty years in business. Donald was a dedicated family man who



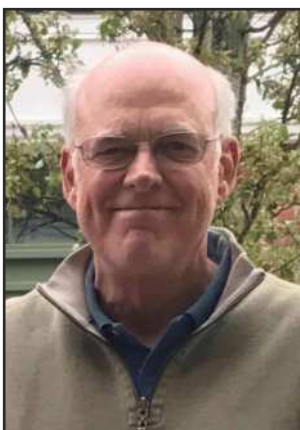
Donald Jerry Dam

worked hard to take care of his family but always made sure to stop to help someone in need as well. He would often hop out of the truck, snow shovel in hand, and clear the sidewalks of elderly friends and neigh-

bors free of charge when he was out and about. In addition to Sally, his wife of over sixty-four years, Donald is survived by his children, Lori (Neil) Ott, Steven Dam and Kevin (Khristy) Dam; grandchildren, Chelsea Baker, Abigail Martin, Olivia Ott, Mikaela Dam, Emilia Dam, Kiera Dam, Payton Dam, Parker Dam and Gavyn Tungate; and great-grandchildren, Ariana Miller, Oliver Baker, Boston Baker and Kaydin Tungate. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Joyce (Robert) Bradshaw. In accordance with his wishes, cremation has taken place. A celebration of Donald's life is being planned for a later date.

Stephen Sleeman

To most, Steve was an avid golfer. But those who knew him best knew his story began long before the links, rooted in the dirt of the family farm in Cooper. Alongside his brother Mike, Steve began working the land at age 11, raising beef cattle for 4-H and tending fields under the watchful eyes of his Grandpa and Dad. Steve's legendary work ethic was forged early. After the 1965 tornado tore through the farm, he and Mike cleared fallen trees using only a two-man buck saw. While farming wasn't his ultimate calling, the competitive spirit and athletic drive he developed there certainly were. The Sleeman family lived by a "work hard, play hard" philosophy. Steve excelled in football, baseball, and basketball, spending countless hours shooting baskets and playing catch in all kinds of weather. At Plainwell High, he held the scoring record for over a decade until his "little" brother Scott finally broke it 11 years later. While playing at Kellogg Community College, the Battle Creek Enquirer aptly labeled him a "darkhorse" stand-out. After trading his jersey for an Army Reserves uniform, Steve joined his father at Sleeman's Service in Cooper Center, a business his father had established in 1955. Steve often joked he



Stephen Sleeman

had "changed a million tires," though a dangerous blowout that broke his jaw turned him from mechanic to manager. Steve eventually bought the station in 1981, bringing Mike on as a partner shortly after. They ran the business together until Steve retired in 2007, selling his portion to Robert Hatfield. Retirement meant more time for his greatest sporting passion: golf. Having moved to the Lake Doster community in 1997 to be near the club, Steve played as often as he could find a partner. He was a fixture in almost every tournament, winning several and recording three remarkable holes-in-one. Off the course, he looked forward to his weekly Bridge games and the annual guys' trip to Las Vegas. Though a lifelong athlete, Steve's greatest "win" came when he mar-

ried Cyndee after 58 years of bachelorhood and they wed on July 19, 2008. Whether golfing, biking, or skiing, they were a whirlwind of activity. Steve was a meticulous trip planner and a willing adventurer. Their life together was filled with annual Telluride ski trips, long bike rides, and social gatherings. They drove to most destinations, hauling a car full of sports equipment and an evident love for one another. A 6'4" gentle giant, Steve was the bedrock of his family. He never boasted about his own stats, yet he was always in the stands to cheer on his nieces, nephews, and his beloved grandsons, who affectionately called him "Pop-Pop." Steve loved to compete and lived his life with a simple philosophy: "You keep score for a reason", but he scored the most through the lives that he touched. He left us too soon, with many more matches to play and places to visit. We celebrate Steve as a life well lived. He would not want us to wallow in the grief of his passing, but to live our days fully and think of him fondly.

Steve is survived by his wife, Cyndee deGraaf of Plainwell; stepson Jeff (Lynette) deGraaf, of Connecticut; Grandsons William, Brady, and Connor deGraaf; siblings Mike (Judie) Sleeman of Big Bay; Cheri (Steve) Schulz of Allegan; Scott (Linda) Sleeman of Otsego; and nieces and nephews Matt, Ben, Alex, Molly, Shelby and Hannah. He was preceded in death by his parents, Phil and Marian Sleeman and sister, Sydney. Celebrate Steve's life online by sharing your favorite stories and photos on his dedicated webpage at BetzlerLifeStory.com. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association. A memorial service is being planned for Saturday, March 28.

Tammy Michelle Blanchard

Tammy Michelle Blanchard was born in Avon Park, Florida, in 1977. From the very beginning, Tammy carried a light about her, an open heart, an easy smile, and a warmth that naturally drew people in. Michelle's life was defined by care and connection. She found her calling as a CNA, where her compassion, patience, and gentle presence brought comfort to countless lives. Caring wasn't just her profession—it was woven into who she was. A true social butterfly, Michelle thrived in the company of others. She loved gathering, laughing, and celebrating life's moments big and small. She embraced sunshine and



Tammy Michelle Blanchard

movement—bike rides, swimming, beach days, and any excuse to be near water. Her creative spirit was ever-evolving, expressed through arts and crafts, stained glass, painting, and whatever

new hobby sparked her curiosity next. Above all else, Michelle's heart belonged to her children and especially her grandchildren. They were her pride, her joy, and the brightest reflection of her love. She carried their light with her everywhere she went. Michelle left this world far too soon in 2025 at the age of 48, but her radiant soul lives on through the lives she touched. On her birthday, March 7, 2026, we will gather to celebrate Michelle's life at the Lincoln Event Center in Allegan, Michigan—honoring a woman whose love, laughter, and light will never be forgotten.

Theresa Lee Marklevitz

Theresa Lee Marklevitz (Moore), of Wayland, Michigan, passed away on February 21, 2026 at 67 years old. Born in Ipswich, Suffolk, England on 10 August 1958 to Eugene and Shirley Moore, Theresa was a self-described "Air Force brat." While she lived in many states growing up, she called Wayland home for most of her life, graduating from Wayland Union High School in 1976. An extraordinarily talented seamstress, Theresa could sew anything with or without a pattern, and was always willing to repair or alter clothing for family and friends. Her memory lives on in the countless creations that will continue to be worn, used, and cherished for generations to come. Theresa's happiest hours were spent with her hands in the earth and her face to the sun. She poured her heart into her flower beds and greenhouse, and could grow anything she tried. We find comfort in knowing that the flowers she tended will continue to grow and color the world in her absence.



Theresa Lee Marklevitz

For many years, Theresa was successfully self-employed and cleaned homes. To many of her clients, she was seen as an additional member of the family. Theresa was a great mother to her daughter, Jessy. She worked incredibly hard to provide a life rich with opportunity. She was Jessy's most passionate storyteller, taking immense pride in every milestone her daughter reached. The deep bond they shared was often unspoken, but still evident to those who knew them. Theresa will be remem-

bered as a caring, funny, creative, spontaneous, energetic, and hardworking force to be reckoned with. She leaves behind an impossible hole to fill in many of the hearts she touched. In death, Theresa is now reunited with her mother, Shirley Moore. Her memory is carried by her husband, Randy Marklevitz; daughter, Jessy (Corbyn) Krzeminski; father, Eugene Moore; stepdaughters Angela Ferguson and Alena (Thomas) Malkewitz; and brothers Gregory (Melissa) Moore and Gary (Erin) Moore. She is also survived by her beloved nephews, nieces, and grandchildren. A visitation celebrating the life of Theresa will be held from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, February 28, 2026 at Kubiak-Cook Funeral Services (Wayland Chapel), 312 N. Main St., Wayland, MI 49348, with a time for sharing memories beginning at 6:30 p.m. The family welcomes memories and messages at www.kubiakcookwayland.com in Theresa's online guestbook.

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**LIVING WITH GRIEF**

BY RONNIE EWING/ AFTERCARE SPECIALIST

LIVING WITH GRIEF, is a monthly column provided by GordenFuneral Residence. Each month LIVING WITH GRIEF will feature some helpful advice as you the reader move forward through your personal grieving process, or simply want to be educated to help those whom you may know have recently experienced a loss, or traumatic event.

VOICES CARRY, was the title of a hit song in the 80's, by a band known as TILL TUESDAY. They have nothing to do with this article other than their choice of titling the song just that, VOICES CARRY.... The human brain is an amazing organ. Its ability to trap, file, re-route is just mind blowing. No pun intended! It can also cause one to unscramble and read correctly sentences like: "ehs slles aes slehs yb eht aes erohs." Give you a headache, try typing that ha ha! Back to the subject. The ability we have to remember and replay those memories, conversations with our loved one is priceless. I often hear my Mom say, I Didn't Raise You Like That! Or some manner of conversation we had before the emotion of "This Can't Be Real" feeling that arrived as I stayed by her side watching her pass. These voices of our loved ones can aid in healing or assist in breaking our heart. They can even snare us or detour around depression. Mind renewal is one of the most complex exercises we often do, however, when done correctly the grass does get greener on the other side.

In our support groups we are taught to recognize our needs. For me, if my Spiritual need is full, it takes care of the rest. Social, Physical, and Emotional. By renewing my mind to simple passages like Philipians 4:6-8, "Focussing on things of Good Report, etc, the peace, Shalom of God strengthens my mind and heart in Christ." I cant quite explain it, but it works. And that continues to aid me as I continue, LIVING WITH GRIEF.

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[bronsonhealth.com/heart](https://bronsonhealth.com/heart)

**BRONSON**



VIEWPOINTS

A Moment Worth the Wait — Why the U.S. Hockey Gold Feels So Good

Sometimes a sports moment turns into something bigger than a medal — it becomes a balm for a weary national psyche, a reminder of resilience, pride and unbridled joy. That’s exactly what happened when **Team USA’s men’s hockey team edged longtime rival Canada 2–1 in overtime to capture Olympic gold on February 22, 2026.**

The game itself was the stuff of legend: an instantaneous heart-stopper that saw the U.S. fight toe-to-toe with a Canadian squad that had dominated international hockey for years. With the score tied 1-1 late, goaltender Connor Hellebuyck from Commerce Township MI stood tall with a jaw-dropping performance — stopping 40+ shots and repeatedly snuffing out Canada’s attacks. Then, just 1:41 into the three-on-three overtime, Jack Hughes — bloodied but unbowed — ripped a shot past the Canadian netminder to end a **46-year Olympic gold medal drought.**

So why does this moment *feel* so good beyond simply winning gold?

**First — it was redemption.** For decades American hockey was chasing the Canadians. Canada has long been seen as the dominant force on the ice, the standard bearer in a sport that often felt like it was theirs by right. To outlast them in *overtime* — in a gold medal game — in front of the world? That’s validation in the purest sporting form.

**Second — it was poetic history.** The date wasn’t just another day on the calendar. It was exactly *46 years to the day* that the U.S. pulled off the iconic *Miracle on Ice* in 1980. This time, the victory didn’t need to lean on nostalgia — but the symmetry gave a fresh generation its own cherished memory.

**And third — it was grit personified.** Sports fans love skill, but they *revere* heart. Hughes’ winning goal — after taking a hard hit and literally losing teeth earlier in the game — encapsulated that old-fashioned virtue: willingness to sacrifice for team and country. That’s a narrative



MIKE’S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX  
■ PUBLISHER ■

that resonates deeply in a world where every win feels mediated by highlight reels and instant metrics.

Yet the significance goes even beyond the ice. This gold medal isn’t just a triumph of speed and stickhandling. To many Americans, it feels like a moment of unity: a rallying point in a time when finding common ground can feel increasingly rare. The game reminded fans why we turn to sports in the first place — for shared breathlessness, collective celebration, and that electric moment when hope becomes reality.

My fiancé and I watched the entire game with bated breath. It was hard to watch a second period that saw Hellebuyck stop shot after shot, as the Canadians were clearly in command. But then, the U.S. team came out in the third period and played Team Canada to a draw. On to overtime, and then it happened.

Kudos to several of the players who hail from Michigan, where we all know youth hockey is almost as big as soccer. Four actually played for U of M and of course are now starring in the NHL.

In the end, this isn’t just a hockey story. It’s a *feel-good* chapter of national pride — one earned not with dominance, but with courage, resilience, and a golden goal that will echo for years to come. What a way to begin the nation’s 250<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

I watched a DVD of George Clooney’s 2005 film, “Good Night and Good Luck.” It’s as relevant now as it was two decades ago in theaters.

It’s the story of American news (radio, print and television) Edward R. Murrow when he stood up to Sen. Joe McCarthy.

Murrow won fame during World War II when he ran the CBS European Bureau sometimes broadcasting from the stairs of St. Martins in the Field Church while the Germans bombed London.

The film was named after his signature sign-off line.

After the war, Murrow set the standard for TV reporting. He was trusted and excellent, but not always revered by his employers at CBS because he dared to challenge those, especially in politics, who wanted to stifle free speech.

McCarthy had made a name for himself by attacking anyone who had liberal leanings that made them a threat to the United States. He labeled them “reds, pinkos and lavenders.” Murrow and all other mainstream reporters were in his sights.

Also among his targets were civil servants in the State Department and other government agencies, writers, Hollywood professionals from A-list actors to the technicians.

The public interrogation began with, “Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party.” Some witnesses admitted they had been in the past but renounced its ideology, others said they had never joined and some refused to answer. Thus, a lot of careers were ruined.

Once people realized that their First Amendment rights were threatened, some of the best-known actors in Hollywood reacted. Henry Fonda, Humphrey Bogart, wife Lauren Bacall, Lucille Ball and more organized a Committee for the First Amendment. They issued a challenge and battle was engaged.

Murrow wanted to do an exposé on McCarthy,

his tactics and the destruction he was causing to so many people. CBS executives stopped him because they feared McCarthy and how they might lose their licenses to broadcast.

Eventually, Murrow prevailed and presented his expose on the senator, which drew sharp reactions from liberals and the conservatives alike

It was the start of the end for McCarthyism. He was censored by the Senate, went home to Wisconsin and died in disgrace. Murrow, the TV networks and right to continue exercising free speech prevailed.

The battle is constant on many fronts. All religions have sets of beliefs. Those who subscribe to them are considered orthodox; those who do not are labeled heretics.

The same is true in many social and hard sciences, but above all, politics. Being a heretic can have life-threatening repercussions. As so with visual arts as well.

Few things are more important and divisive than First Amendment rights. It remains a constant struggle on many fronts.

All religions have a set of beliefs. Those who subscribe to them are considered orthodox; those who do not are labeled heretics.

The same is true in many of the social and hard sciences, but above all, in politics. Being a heretic can have life-threatening repercussions. It is true of the performing and visual arts as well.

First Amendment rights have divided friends and family since the American Revolution, through the Civil War and Reconstruction on up to now. Some of us may not be joining family members this year for the holidays because of different views. That is just the way it is.

There has been much chatter about the U.S. becoming like Germany or Italy in the 1920s and 1930s. We over-look the comparisons between now and the early 1950s.

To do that is a mistake. None of us wants to be told what we may or may not read, what news we



G CORWIN STOPPEL

follow, what music we listen to or anything else.

We do not want to live in fear of those who accuse us of being a heretic. In fact, we defiantly refuse to live in fear.

In the sixth grade, Mrs. Wilson had stacks of anti-red pamphlets on a classroom counter. They were provided by the John Birch Society, the same group who tried to outlaw chlorine from our water.

Not only did we have to read them, we could get extra credit for writing a report on pamphlet’s merits. On Mondays as we turned in our reports, she asked if our parents had read the pamphlets and agreed with the writers.

The extra credit was a bright shiny sticky star. Mine was red, although at the time I did not see the irony in earning a red star for reading anti-communist propaganda.

I think Mrs. Wilson lived in fear of the JBS, PTA and other self-appointed watchdogs over our morals and politics. Like the made-up characters in the pamphlets, she was worried a student might say something bad about her to their parent. Worse, a parent might snitch on her to one of the local groups as a possible “Commie.”

I did not care for her at the time, but she did not deserve to be scared of false accusations at work.

All of which explains why Henry Fonda’s daughter Jane and many of today’s Hollywood actors and directors, along with journalists, reporters

and others have joined the re-launching of the Committee for the First Amendment.

For for many of us during the Vietnam War era, “Hanoi Jane” Fonda was toxic. What she said and did on her junket to North Vietnam hurt a lot of people.

I think she was wrong, but we all have to live with our decisions. It is part of a tradition of dissent that is as long as our nation itself.

Members of the Continental Congress and the delegates to the Constitutional Convention were never a bunch of well-behaved choir boys waiting to have tea with a bishop.

Almost every administration has had its own opponents. Every public policy decision was popular among some and opposed by others. Dissent and disagreement are the essence of our common life.

Free speech and the First Amendment rights have come under attack since the beginning of the 19th century when the Alien and Sedition Act was signed into law. It was overturned and President John Adams was turned out of office.

Throughout the years, attempts to limit free speech have arisen. Usually they survive for a short time, then rejected and repealed. The process of debate and argument has saved us from lapsing into a dictatorship.

It is very different now. The New York Times reported that the Department of Homeland Security has subpoenaed giant tech corporations, primarily Silicon Valley ones, for the names, email addresses, and telephone numbers of those who have been critical of DHS and ICE. Several have complied.

That seems spooky because these widespread information sweeps may make dissent and disagreement all but impossible. Should dissent be silenced, it may very well topple our cherished Bill of Rights in the Constitution, and with it, much of what we value as Americans.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ICE raids, deportations take money away from economy

To the editor:

As of January 25, ICE reports it has Seventy-Three Thousand people in its custody at 224 facilities throughout the nation. These 73,000 detainees are babies, children, mothers, grandmothers, fathers, husbands, students—people who escaped terrible living or political conditions in desperate attempts to make their lives better. While in detention, they are supported by us, taxpayers, instead of being allowed to provide for themselves.

These people are no longer contributing millions, if not billions of dollars to the nation’s economy and to tax revenues. This number pales in comparison to the 400,000 people who have been taken out of the nation’s economy and deported over this past year.

Ice raids are not confined to large cities. Allegan county and other parts of Michigan are also the focus of ICE activity, with many of the detainees being incarcerated at the North Lake Processing Center in Baldwin, the largest detention center in the nation. When undocumented people aren’t detained and are working, they pay taxes. Because they are undocumented, their taxes go into the national coffers but they do not receive the benefits their tax dollars bring to the rest of us. The vast majority of these people have been abiding by our laws and following paths to citizenship just like every one of our forebears did when they arrived in this country.

Now these people are

facing changing rules and administrative decisions based on Kristi Noem’s and Stephen Miller’s policies as they implement Trump’s racially biased views and a belief in the “great replacement theory.” The goalposts continue to move and people who had been here legally now find themselves without access to documents they need to remain in this country and eventually become citizens. These policy decisions are not grounded in any humanitarian or economic principles but arise from prejudice and fear of “the other.” The extraordinary assertion that vast numbers of noncitizens throughout the country can be arrested and held in detention centers without the right to due process until they are deported is an example of how goalposts move. Last April, at the Border Security Expo in Phoenix, Arizona, acting director of ICE Todd Lyons told attendees: “We need to get better at treating this like a business.” He called for a deportation process “like [Amazon] Prime, but with human beings.” Germany, in the 1930’s, treated certain groups of its citizens “like a business” by establishing industrial scale concentration camps. In the Republicans’ July 2025 budget reconciliation bill—The One Big Beautiful Bill for Billionaires Act—they put \$45 billion into additional funding for ICE detention. As we write this, ICE is planning to spend \$38.3 billion turning warehouses into detention centers. Then what? Will they

be used to detain people who demonstrate their opposition to this regime? American citizens who do so have already been detained, beaten, even shot and killed. It’s not far fetched to think that an escalation of this nefarious policy might be in the works. Our tax dollars are being used to cripple the economy and make ordinary citizens fearful. \$38 Billion could go a long way toward supporting a more robust education system for all of us.

When a person is caught up in the ICE dragnet, what happens? Without due process, which is guaranteed by the Constitution to every single person within these borders, they are summarily shipped off to a concentration camp operated by unscrupulous contractors who are in the business of maximizing profit. People who were working a few days earlier find themselves crammed into facilities which are meant for smaller populations. 90% of these people have no criminal record and many of them have begun the work to become citizens. The facilities are unsanitary with too few toilets serving a burgeoning population. Detainees are denied access to legal council. Medical care doesn’t exist, diseases run rampant and people are dying. The GEO Group, the organization operating many detention facilities, including the one in Baldwin, MI, reported a profit of \$254 million dollars. That’s a quite a profit for treating people cruelly. This comes at a time when Trump’s other policies are

raising healthcare costs and grocery prices.

The person hired to represent us in Congress, Bill Huizenga, supports the highly profitable deportation-industrial complex. He voted for the Big Brutal for Americans Bill which paid for and authorized these detention centers. His continued support for the paramilitary army of unaccountable and poorly trained ICE officers demonstrates his absence of humanitarian concern and ignorance of the Constitution. He refuses to meet with constituents in a setting which would allow unscripted questions about this regime’s policies for immigrants and asylum seekers. If these costly policies are so good for us, Mr. Huizenga needs to explain why and how they are improving our day to day lives.

For 250 years this country has governed itself through compromises and agreements among our elected representatives. We got rid of the king who would make decisions for “his people” with little regard for any person outside the royalty. Our forefathers established a nation which would govern itself, not as a hate filled tyranny, but as a government of the people, by the people and for the people. This nation is made up of mostly fair minded, decent people from a variety of cultural or ethnic backgrounds working together. This is truly what Makes America Great.

William and Mary Jones  
Allegan

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RELIGION SECTION

Every culture and nation has its own, often unique form, of greeting etiquette. In France, it is expected costumers will greet a shop employee with “Bonjour.” No greeting is taken as an insult. In northern England, you might hear “Hi-ya” whereas in London it might be “How do you do?” In the US, it is often “Hello” or “Hey!”

In the opening sentence of St Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, he begins with the words “Grace and Peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” I believe this was carefully chosen and intentional because the small, young congregation in Corinth was in deep trouble. They were badly divided on almost everything.

Perhaps more than any other city in Greece, Corinth seemed to thrive on anger, conflict, and rancor. Some Bible scholars have suggested that it was because Corinth was a notoriously rough and combative port on the Greek mainland. It was a major trading center, and that had led to a division between the very wealthy and the very poor. It also attracted many unsavory characters such as thieves,

robbers, pickpockets, con artists, women of the street, and others.

When Christianity was introduced to the Corinthians and they organized their first congregation, unfortunately, all of the bad behavior they

had learned throughout their life was brought into the church. St Paul had to remind them of the basics, such as, when you have a church dinner make it into what we would call a potluck, and share your food so that every-

one has something to eat.

They were also severely divided over the distribution of the gifts and talents people were bringing into the church, believing that some were better and more worthy than others. They were divided

over which teacher was better and more true to the Gospel.

Paul is a wonderful example of perseverance because. I believe a lesser person might have thrown up their hands and left them to their own devices. Instead, Paul changes their focus right from the start. The two words, grace and peace, are translated from very common Greek names - Caris and Irene. In the ancient, far more than today, a name was considered sacred, and people grew to pattern their life on the name’s meaning. In other words, grow into being gracious and peaceful.

It would begin by re-focusing their gifts and attributes as gifts from God to be used for the benefit of the entire body of Christ. And so it is for us. Perhaps the practice of using names will not work for us, but we can identify the unique talents each person brings with them and give thanks to God for those blessings.

G C Stoppel  
Priest Associate  
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI



Directory of Area Churches

**Allegan Assembly of God**  
424 DeLano St, Allegan  
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays  
Church: 673-6577

**Allegan Bible Church**  
412 S. Sherman, Allegan  
Pastor Jon Gruss  
Church: 673-6831

**Allegan Christian Center**  
700 Ely St., Allegan  
Paul Knuckles, Pastor  
Church: 673-2921

**Allegan County Jail**  
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery  
Phone: 673-0350

**Allegan United Methodist Church**  
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan  
Pastor Julia Humenik  
Church: 673-4236;

**At the Master's Feet**  
814 21st St., Otsego  
269-694-6897  
Paster Ray Brown

**Blessed Sacrament Church**  
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan  
Fr. Simon Manjooran  
Church: 673-4455

**Bloomington Bible Church**  
210 Chestnut at Pine NW  
Bloomin gdale  
Ofc. 269-427-2101

**Bravo Community Church**  
5587 113th Ave., Fennville  
Pastor Duane Terpstra  
616-886-1214

**Burnips United Methodist**  
4241 30th, Burnips  
Craig VanBeek, Pastor  
616-896-8410

**Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)**  
304 S. Main Street, Wayland  
Pastor Chad Peckham  
ccwayland.org

**Casco United Methodist Church**  
880 66th Street, South Haven  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.  
269-227-3328  
www.cascoumc.org

**Chicora Country Chapel**  
4399 108th Ave., Allegan  
Pastor Herb Curry  
Phone: 269-370-5834

**Christ Community Church**  
3370 113th Ave., Allegan  
www.alleganccc.org ·  
(269) 673-2329  
Pastor Wally Coots

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**  
687 Linn Street, Allegan  
Church: 673-9617

**Church of God - Otsego**  
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego  
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.  
269-694-9481  
www.otsegocog.com

**Corner Bible Church**  
4001 124th Allegan  
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

**CrossWind Community Church**  
1632 142nd Avenue  
Dorr, MI 49323  
616-359-9013  
Pastor Tommy Boutell

**Dunningville Reformed Church**  
2559 M-40, Allegan  
Church: 751-5894  
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone  
dunningville.org/index.html

**East Martin Christian Reformed Church**  
510-118th Ave., Martin  
269-672-5746  
www.eastmartincrc.org

**Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)**  
4219 Parklane, Dorr  
www.epiphanydorr.org  
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

**Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd**  
101 North Walnut St, Allegan  
Office: 673-2254

**Faith Baptist Church**  
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673-5040 1-888-354-3272

**Fennville Assembly of God**  
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Fennville, MI 49408  
269-561-2683

**Fennville United Methodist Church**  
5849 124th St., Fennville  
269-561-5048  
Bob Lynch, Pastor  
www.fennvilleumc.org

**First Presbyterian Church**  
200 Cutler Street, Allegan  
Church: 673-4631  
www.fpcallegan.org  
10:00 service time.

**First Baptist Church**  
1290 32nd St., Allegan  
Service at 10:00am  
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley  
www.fbcalleagan.com

**First Baptist Church of Otsego**  
247 E Allegan St., Otsego  
(269) 694-4160  
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

**First Church of God**  
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan  
269 673-3881  
www.pathtohim.org  
Pastor, Tim Secord

**First Congregational Church**  
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Church Office: 673-3139  
Pastor Todd Wagner

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Pastor Lenny Luchetti

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Plainwell, MI 49080  
685-5990

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Office 793-7929

**Ganges Baptist Church**  
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville  
269-543-4203  
11AM each Sunday

**Ganges United Methodist Church**  
2218 68th St  
Fennville MI 49408  
Phone 269-543-3581  
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

**Grace Church of Hamilton**  
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97  
Hamilton MI 49419  
269.264.4900  
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

**Hope Lutheran Church**  
290 12th St., Plainwell  
(269) 685-1348  
Pastor Nicole Smith  
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

**Hopkins Community Reformed Church**  
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins  
(269) 793-7361  
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

**Hopkins United Methodist Church**  
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins  
(269) 793-7323  
Pastor Kelsey French

**Horseshoe Community Bible Church**  
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction  
269-521-4580 ·  
Pastor Don Miller

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
631 Grand Street, Allegan  
Church: 673-3335  
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

**Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness**  
2199 Taft Road, Allegan  
Phone: 673-6179

**Living Waters Community Church**  
5458 M-89, Fennville  
Service: 10:30 Sundays  
Pastor Andrew Leach  
269-561-5277

**Martin Reformed Church**  
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin  
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks  
672-5596

**Martin United Methodist Church**  
969 E. Allegan St., Martin  
Pastor Margaret Stoken  
269-672-7097  
www.martinumc.org

**Merson Church**  
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI  
Office: 673-5274  
www.mersonchurch.org

**Montage Ministries**  
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**Monterey Center United Methodist Church**  
3022 130th Ave.  
Monterey Center, 49328  
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793-7288

**Mt. Calvary M.B. Church**  
5425 105th Ave., Pullman  
Pastor Everett Belue  
269-382-3405

**New Hope Baptist Church**  
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)  
Pastor Tadd Butler  
673-1938

**Northbridge Church**  
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo  
269-385-4378 ·  
www.northbridge.cc

**Northpoint Ministries**  
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)  
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199  
Pastor Gary Lounsberry  
Sunday Worship: 11am

**OAKLAND CRC**  
4460 38th Street  
Hamilton. MI. 49419

616 688 5290  
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

**Otsego United Methodist Church**  
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI  
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Reverend Dan Minor  
OtsegoMETHODISTCHURCH.ORG

**Pathfinder North Church**  
(A Global Methodist Church)  
532 M 89, Otsego, MI 49078  
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship  
Rev Ron Hansen  
Pathfindernorth.com

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego  
www.peaceotsego.com  
694-6104

**Pearl United Methodist Church**  
1689 56th St., Fennville  
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am  
Bob Lynch, Pastor  
www.fennvilleumc.org

**Pentecostal Church of God I.M**  
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Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am  
Worship Service @ 11:00am  
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan  
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959  
Email: gytanj@yahoo.com

**Plainwell Church of Christ**  
911 James St.  
Plainwell, Michigan 49080

**Plainwell First Baptist Church**  
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell  
(269) 685-8888  
Pastor George Osborn

**Plainwell First United Methodist Church**  
200 Park St. Plainwell  
269-685-5113  
www.fumcplainwell.com

**Rectify Church**  
247 N. Main St., Allegan  
616-218-1556  
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

**Redemption Place Church of God**  
1900 M-40, Allegan  
Pastor Deborah Leshner  
Church: 269-355-1167

**Refreshing Springs Ministries**  
201 Briggs St., Allegan  
616-510-7416  
Pastor Adrian Hall

**River of Life Church**  
605 W. Allegan, Otsego  
269-672-9904  
www.alleganchurch.com

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229 Cutler Street, Allegan  
Dan Rachor, Pastor  
Church: 673-3284

**Shelbyville United Methodist Church**  
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville  
672-7097 · Church office  
Pastor Margaret Stoken

**South Monterey United Methodist Church**  
Pastor Kelsey French  
Church: 793-7323

**St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church**  
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville  
269-664-4345  
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

**Saint John's Church Of God In Christ**  
716 Academy St, Allegan  
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.  
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
1764 34th St., Allegan  
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079  
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

**St. Margaret's Catholic Church**  
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego  
269-694-6311

**Third Coast Community Church**  
www.thirdcoastff.org |  
269.857.5633  
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck,  
MI 49453  
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

**Trowbridge Community Church**  
355 26th Street, Otsego  
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor  
Church: 673-5502

**Unity Baptist Church**  
35 14 12th St. Wayland  
Pastor Kelly Ryan  
Cell # (269) 330-2217

**Watson Bible Church**  
1626 116th St., Otsego  
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# Ordinance work done ahead of moratorium

By Joseph Schultz

With the possibility of a data center moratorium (pause) coming from the township board next week, the Dorr Planning Commission got busy trying to complete work on some other ordinances.

First up was the Curb and Gutter ordinance. The Curb and Gutter ordinance, that the commission has been working on for the last several months, had reached a stage of final review.

The ordinance will state that all cul-de-sacs and paved street radii will need to have concrete curbs. This requirement will apply to new roads with 10 or more homes, and to similar roads when they are upgraded. The commission did exempt the radii requirement when the new paved road is coming off of a gravel road.

Commissioners made it clear to the public that came out against the data center that the new ordinance was only about the curbs. Some of the assembled residents had mistakenly thought that it had to do with the installation of water or sewer lines.

There will be a public hearing on the new ordinance at the March 17th planning meeting. Commissioners will be considering at that time to

recommend the ordinance to the township board.

The Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Ordinance

Jason Derry of Professional Code Inspectors (PCI) started the discussion about a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) ordinance by explaining to the group that came out against the data center that this ordinance had nothing to do with the data center, and that the commission was not considering approving a battery system.

The ordinance being considered was in response to the state legislature passing Public Act 233. Public Act 233 took the regulative power over solar, wind and BESS projects away from the local authorities, and brought it up to the state level.

In order for local authorities to have any say on a solar, wind or BESS project in their community, they needed to have “workable” ordinances in place for these projects. If the ordinances are not “workable” for the companies desiring to build a BESS, they can appeal to the state Public Service Commission (PSC). The PSC can then approve a project over the objections of the local authorities.

Derry went on to explain that these projects would be allowing on land

zoned for Agricultural use, because the State of Michigan has deemed that solar, wind, and BESS operations are a “form of agriculture”.

The new ordinance would have requirements for environmental, sound and light studies to be done. It will also require a decommission plan, and the funds set aside to pay for the decommissioning of a BESS project.

The initial draft of the ordinance called for a 50 foot setback from the road, and other associated property, and 100 foot setback from any non-associated dwelling.

The Planning Commission thought the setback was too close.

The ordinance was changed to a 100 foot setback from the road and associated property, and 300 foot setback from a non-associated dwelling.

Chairman Dan Beute clarified that this ordinance is only for commercial battery energy systems. Non-commercial battery energy systems, like a homeowner may have for their own property, would not be subject to requirements in this ordinance.

It was the commission’s desire to complete their work on this ordinance at the March 17th meeting.

This story is provided by TownBroadcast



Cutline- Residents at a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting

## Hopkins solar variance on hold

By Joseph Schultz

At a Hopkins Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) meeting Monday night, the community learned how much trouble two digits can cause. The main item on the agenda was to be a variance application submitted by NorthStar Clean Energy - Allegan Solar LLC; however, the number “03” was mistakenly added to the parcel number (10-030-011-00) in the notifications that the township published before the meeting.

According to state law, this typo needed to be corrected and republished before the application could be considered.

Allegan Solar was seeking variances to build closer than 300 feet from a non-associated dwelling. The solar company also wants to be closer than 100 feet from a 100-year floodplain, and a wetland.

In the application, Allegan Solar argues that allowing the solar project to be closer than the 300 feet setback of the non-associated dwelling will preserve

the property rights of the participating property owners, as well as the rights of the non-participating property, should they desire to contract with Allegan Solar in the future.

Furthermore, Allegan Solar stated that encroaching on the floodplain and wetland is necessary to fulfill the township’s goal of preserving prime farmland.

Professional Code Inspectors (PCI) also did a review of the variance application. In the review, PCI stated that the State of Michigan also requires a 300 feet setback for a non-participating parcel. This means that even if the township approves the variance, Allegan Solar would still need to get a variance from the Michigan Public Service Commission.

However, PCI also noted that the state of Michigan has no setback requirements for floodplains or wetlands.

With the formal review on hold, the board opened the meeting up for public comment. One of the first comments was a question

about the drain commissioner reviewing the variances. The board explained that even if the township approved the variances for the floodplain and wetland, the drain commissioner has the authority to deny it.

Other comments focused on revenue from the state for the solar project, the environmental impact of the project, and the township’s desire to preserve the farm lands.

Township attorney Seth Koches, of Bauckham, Thall, Seeber, Kaufman & Koches P.C., addressed several concerns but noted that many questions cannot be answered yet. Koches stated, “We don’t have an application,” for the special land use. Allegan Solar wanted to get the zoning variances first, before requesting the special land use.

Hopkins Township Clerk will publish the corrected notice, and the ZBA is scheduled to meet Monday, March 23 to consider the variance application.

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# Former Plainwell orthodontist sentenced to 60 years for child exploitation

By Jordan Wilcox  
Assistant Publisher

Thomas Patrick Shannon, the former owner of Shannon Orthodontics in Plainwell and Grandville, has been sentenced to 60 years in federal prison on child exploitation charges — the maximum allowed under the law. On Monday, U.S. District Judge Paul L. Maloney sentenced the 44-year-old after he pleaded guilty in October to two counts of sexual exploitation and attempted sexual exploitation of a minor.

According to court documents, Shannon exploited nearly 20 girls between the ages of 12 and 17 from 2019 to 2024.

The investigation began in late 2021 when a 16-year-old in Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina, reported to police that she had been exploited on Snapchat, an online messaging platform. She told authorities a man contacted her requesting nude photos and videos in exchange for money.

The girl agreed, sent the images, and was paid \$150. He later requested additional content, including material from when she was in eighth and ninth grade.

Fuquay-Varina police traced the account to Shannon, who at the time owned Shannon Orthodontics. Authorities alerted the Kent County Sheriff's Office, and Detective Tim Potts went to question Shannon at his Grandville clinic.

Potts asked whether he remembered messaging a girl on Snapchat about two years earlier. Shannon responded, "Possibly, yes."

"You asked for some nude photographs, and you were going to send her money?" Potts continued. Shannon replied, "If it happened, obviously it's all there, and I have to fess up to it. I didn't know anything more about that, but some girls are on there

soliciting." Shortly afterward, Shannon hired a private investigator to determine whether his phone and accounts contained child pornography. They did.

The investigator determined Shannon had coerced and paid 17 underage girls to send explicit photos and videos. According to documents filed by prosecutors, he paid one victim, a child in the foster care system, nearly \$2,000 for approximately 40 explicit videos and asked another to recruit friends.

"Do you have any friends who would make content? Either alone or with you? I'm thinking of more ways to get you \$\$\$," Shannon messaged. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jonathan Roth later revealed in a sentencing memorandum that Shannon pressured minors not only to record themselves but also to film themselves having sex with men and send him the recordings.

Kent County Detective Christopher Goehring continued the investigation and eventually secured a search warrant for Shannon's computer. A forensic examination uncovered additional explicit images of infants, pre-pubescent children, and adolescents dating back to January 2019.

In January 2023, Shannon was arrested by the Kent County Sheriff's Office on state-level child pornography charges but was released on bond. He was placed on an electronic tether, required to surrender his passport, restricted from using a computer except for work purposes, and prohibited from unsupervised contact with minors, including his own children. However, that did not stop his crimes.

In July 2024, an 18th victim, a 13-year-old girl from Prince George's County, Maryland, was



Thomas Patrick Shannon

identified after her father reported finding nude photos and messages between her and Shannon.

At that point, state prosecutors dismissed their case, and federal authorities took over. Law enforcement tracked Shannon's electronic tether to Isle Marina in Grand Haven, where he kept his yacht.

Agents with Homeland Security Investigations raided the vessel and later arrested Shannon in a nearby park while he

was walking with his son. During the federal investigation, authorities also determined that Shannon had been producing and selling child sexually abusive material through an online network.

In a memo submitted to the court, Shannon acknowledged that his "online behavior would have never completely stopped, if not for the federal search of my boat."

Elsewhere in the memo, he claimed to have recommitted to his Christian faith and stated he would never again let down God or his family. He attributed his actions to arrogance, entitlement, and insecurity, and said he did not fully comprehend the harm he was causing.

Despite those statements, prosecutors described Shannon as "a serial sexual predator" and sought the maximum sentence — two consecutive 30-year terms. Judge Maloney granted the request and ordered restitution payments of

\$2,000, \$10,000, and \$7,900 to three victims. Court records indicate Shannon has already paid those amounts.

During sentencing, Maloney said, "This is the most horrendous case I have seen in my 30 years working in state and federal court."

Following the sentencing, Timothy VerHey, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan, issued a statement to media outlets.

"Shannon's selfish and senseless exploitation of these children has exposed them to a lifetime of emotional damage," VerHey wrote. "I sincerely hope they can overcome it. But preying on our children must stop, and we will seek long sentences against people like Shannon until it does."

The statement also included remarks from Homeland Security Investigations' Detroit acting Special Agent in Charge Jared Murphey and Kent

County Sheriff Michelle LaJoye-Young, who commended the collaborative efforts of Homeland Security Investigations, the Kent County Sheriff's Office, the Fuquay-Varina Police Department, the Prince George's County Police Department, and Project Safe Childhood.

Project Safe Childhood is a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the U.S. Department of Justice to combat child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) prosecutors, the initiative coordinates federal, state, and local resources to identify victims and investigate and prosecute offenders.

Shannon Orthodontics ceased operations in early 2023. According to Shannon's defense attorney, no patients were harmed.

As part of his plea agreement, Shannon waived his right to appeal.

## Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

Just as in ancient Greece during the games and competitions at Mount Olympus, the modern Olympics have made a much-welcomed diversion from politics and the economy. This week's question: What are your favorite games?

-Woman near the Fennville hardware store: "Oh, I love the ice dancing. They are just wonderful. It's poetry in motion. They are so graceful; almost floating."

-Young woman near the Fennville grocery store: "I like the women's hockey. I mean, they fight just like the men, and the US team is knocking their opponents. It's kinda cool."

-Couple near the Blue

Goose Restaurant; Man: "None of it. The whole thing's a big waste of time and money." The woman with him said nothing but raised here eyebrows and barely shook her head."

-Two young children with their mother in front of the Allegan library: First boy: "I like the bob-sledding. If we had mountains around here I could get into that." Second child, "I like that skiing and shooting thing. When I get older I'm going to get some skis and do it!" Mother's response: "And none of that is ever going to happen!"

-Man near A-Tech: "I started getting into curling the last time four years. I like it because old guys can do it. You know one of the teams has a

fellow who's in his fifties. You know, I could do it."

-A friend came up to us and asked, "You talking about curling again?" Then to me, "You know why we likes curling? Cause the women curlers are cute, that's why!"

-Young man near the Allegan Post Office: "We watched 'Cool Runnings' the other night. You think it was true that Jamaica sent a bobsled team to the Olympics, or is that fake news?"

-Woman, same location, "You know, I always thought curling was some sort of weird shuffleboard on ice, but there's a lot more to it. But it's still weird. You know, the rocks only come from one place in Scotland, they spray

water on the ice to make it rough, and they got a lot of tough rules."

-Man with her, "Yeah, that's what makes it a sport for intellectuals, you know, like me!" She had some interesting things to say to him.

-Couple near Minnie's; Woman: "I like the downhill skiing. Can you imagine standing on this mountain at the start of the run, looking down, and then having to guts to do it? Or ski jumping, or that snow board thing? You got to admire their guts." Man: "I got into curling. You know, I discovered there is a curling channel on Amazon Prime. You can watch curling 24/7!" Woman: "You see what I gotta put up with?"

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# Dorr Trustee Stanton resigns, had differences with supervisor

By David Young

Dorr Township Board Trustee Chandler Stanton, who also was chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, has resigned both posts after serving for more than five years.

Stanton was first elected trustee in 2020 and ran unopposed in 2024.

He and Supervisor Jeff Miling often have been at loggerheads on local

issues and their differences have been evident in meetings. Most recently he spearheaded having a special meeting earlier this month on prospects for an unpopular Microsoft data center coming to the township at two sites.

Stanton also was the key public figure in investigating former Treasurer Myrna Marr, accusing her of mismanaging money. Marr

resigned and appeared in court in the matter.

Stanton indicated his resignation is effective Thursday, Feb. 19. The Township Board, meanwhile, will be tasked with finding a successor for a term that will expire in November 2028.

However, it is possible that the person appointed may face election in the August or November elections.

The Township Board

next Thursday night also will deal with proposals for pay raises. Proposed pay for the supervisor, clerk and treasurer will be a 2.8% increase, from \$42,612.42 to \$43,848.18 annually, and the trustees' stipends to be raised from \$4,261.87 to \$4,385.46 per year, also 2.8 percent.

But perhaps the biggest anticipation will be for the board to impose a temporary moratorium

on any requests involving new or expanded data centers, which has been a particularly hot issue over the last couple of months. Interestingly, Microsoft representatives have not come forward with any proposals, though tech giant now owns two parcels within the township.

The issues has been very visible in many other municipalities in West Michigan, with

many residents insisting the centers will siphon off water.

The Township Board also will be asked to grant Great Lakes Excavating a special use permit for gravel mining.

The meeting will one held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, at the new township hall on 142nd Avenue.

This story is provided by TownBroadcast



Erin Dewey takes the honors of cutting the ribbon to celebrate the opening of Locust Corner Wellness in Allegan as Open House guests look on. Photo: G. Voss

## Locust Corner Wellness opens with flare

By Gari Voss

Allegan, MI added a wellness and community-focused center to its downtown offerings when Locust Corner Wellness celebrated its Grand Opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony and charcuterie board on Friday, February 20, 2026, from 4-7pm. Guests enjoyed food, giveaways, free massage offerings, class and staff introductions, and wellness samplings throughout the evening.

Locust Corner Wellness is located in a historic downtown building owned by Erin and Dan Dewey, who have led a major renovation of the property with support from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC),

Element 22 Commercial Group, and Kugelard Property Services LLC. The project included the careful historic restoration of the main-floor commercial space as well as the creation of two new apartments available for rent. The project has developed a building that contributes to ongoing downtown development efforts in Allegan.

On hand for the Open House on February 20<sup>th</sup> were those who mentored Dewey through the restoration process plus others supporting the efforts.

Tino Breithaupt, managing director for MEDC that partners with local businesses to grow Michigan's economy and expand opportunities by investing in

people, places, and projects to drive prosperity and population growth, spoke about Dewey's personal investment along side the nearly \$250,000 grant awarded by the MEDC.

State Representative Rachelle Smit spoke about owner investments in the community and the importance of bringing a new business to the people of the Allegan area.

Allegan City Manager Joel Dye thanked Dewey for their investment in Allegan and for adding two rental units to complement the business and the housing needs in Allegan.

Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Taylor Bentley welcomed Locust Corner Wellness to the

area and for extending the service offerings to residents.

Dewey gave heartfelt thanks to Steve Tibbetts who had graciously provided Erin with space to continue her business in his building while Locust Corner Wellness was under renovation for the last year and a half. To demonstrate her gratitude, Dewey and her clients held a collection and presented a \$1,000 check to the Allegan Education Foundation for a scholarship in Tibbett's name.

Dewey stressed, "Locust Corner Wellness is built around a mission of connection and accessibility. The business will offer yoga, massage, and services with a special focus on preventative

care, supported by an experienced team bringing more than 50 years of combined professional experience across several modalities, lineages and disciplines."

Dewey is passionate about helping people exactly where they are in their health journey. Erin will share her kinesiology and exercise science background with services in medical massage, an outcome-based therapy, personalized for clients with chronic pain, injury, or medical conditions.

Guest lecturer Shreejan (Minnard) Sita, graduate of Allegan High School in 1982, brings a wealth of indigenous healing wisdom from her extensive travels and education in India. Certified and expe-

rienced in Ayurveda, Indian Medical Sciences and Yoga Therapy, she specializes in unraveling the mysteries and maladjustments of lifestyle which result in accumulated trauma in the body's organs and systems. Shree's network of teachers and workshop facilitators promise enlightening courses and workshops to spark curiosity, increase personal empowerment, and involve the entire family.

Locust Corner Wellness classes and appointments will officially begin in March 2026. Enrollment and Founders Memberships are available now for purchase through the business website <https://www.LocustCorner.com>.

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SPORTS

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THURSDAY, FEB. 26, 2026

# Tigers claim second straight regional championship

BY JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

DOWAGIAC—For the second straight year, the Allegan wrestling team is headed to Wings Event Center.

The Tigers captured a Division 3 regional championship Wednesday, Feb. 18, defeating Buchanan 62–15 in the finals after earning a 46–30 win over Constantine in the semifinals.

With the regional title, Allegan advances to the Division 3 state quarterfinals, scheduled for Friday, Feb. 27 at 4:30 p.m. at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo. As the No. 8 seed, the Tigers will face top-seeded Dundee, with the winner moving on to the state semifinals Saturday, Feb. 28 at noon.

The regional championship marks back-to-back seasons Allegan has advanced to the quarterfinals and continues the program’s resurgence. Last season’s regional title was the Tigers’ first in more than a decade, with the previous championship coming in 2014.

Allegan controlled the championship match, winning 11 of 14 weight classes and piling up bonus points throughout the lineup.

Cullen VanderKooi earned a 16–5 major decision at 106 pounds, while Jayven Sipkema added a victory by forfeit at 113. Sullivan Morgan recorded an 18–3 technical fall at 120, and Jacob Collier followed with another technical fall at 126.

Hudson VanderKooi (138), Hunter McKee (144), Treydan Vanderkooi (150), Caden Krusinga (157), Ryan Sparks (165) and Rysten Williams (175) all secured wins by fall. Ayden Oisten added a victory by forfeit at heavyweight.

Buchanan’s wins came at 132, 190 and 215, but Allegan’s depth and ability to secure bonus points proved decisive.

The Tigers advanced to the finals with a balanced team effort against Constantine. Cullen VanderKooi (106) and Jayven Sipkema (113) each recorded falls, while Sullivan Morgan earned a technical fall at 126. Jacob Collier (132), Hudson VanderKooi

The Allegan wrestling team will head back to Wings Event Center after winning a regional title for the second straight year. (Photo provided)

(144), Treydan Vanderkooi (150), Ryan Sparks (175) and Rysten Williams (190) also contributed victories.

Although Constantine picked up wins in several weight classes, Allegan’s bonus-point victories created the separation needed to secure the 46–30 win.

# Otsego secures first outright league title in a decade

BY JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

OTSEGO—A decade.

That’s how long it had been since the Otsego girls basketball team had won

the Wolverine Conference championship outright.

That changed on Friday, Feb. 20, when the Bulldogs cruised past visiting Paw Paw 70-37, locking up the

outright league title in the process.

Otsego (16-1 overall) improved to 13-0 in the Wolverine Conference with one league game remaining.

Bulldogs coach Tony Koshar was all smiles following the game.

“To win our first conference title in 10 years tells you how tough our conference can be,” he said. “For most of my 14 years here, we have been in contention (for the title), but this is only the second outright title we’ve won.

“I’m just really proud of the girls. This is a fun team to be around. They like each other, the root for each other, they don’t care who gets the credit and as usually is part of being a champion, we have multiple girls that can step up at any time with a big game.”

In this game, no player stepped up more than Madden Fitzpatrick.

In addition to scoring a game-high 22 points on 8-of-12 shooting—including 3-of-4 from long range—Fitzpatrick also collected eight rebounds and a pair of steals.

“It was fun to watch Madden do her thing,” Koshar

said. “She attacked the rim from the start and then also got her three pointers going.”

Fellow junior Brooke Smalldon added 16 points and a team-best nine rebounds, six assists and three steals.

“Brooke just stuffed the stat sheet,” Koshar said.

Audrey Lingbeek and Kendall Hough added eight points each, with Hough also snagging seven boards.

The outcome of the game was never really in doubt, as the Bulldogs jumped out to an 18-3 lead and were up 23-9 at the end of the first quarter. The advantage stood at 44-16 at halftime.

“We had another quick start and we were able to cruise and clinch the title,” Koshar said.

Speaking of the title, Koshar noted how tough the Wolverine Conference was this season.

“The top teams in our league were really tough this year,” he said. “We had to win a couple of close games

against Sturgis—who we gave two of their three losses this season—and Plainwell, highlighted by coming back from 19 down midway through the third quarter at their place.

“I feel like they have had a championship mentality all season.”

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, Otsego bested Vicksburg 61-14 to lock up a share of the conference crown.

Smalldon led the way with 19 point, followed by Mya Engbers with nine, Fitzpatrick with eight and Hough with seven. Malania Miller added seven rebounds, matching Fitzpatrick for team-high honors.

“It was a good night for the team as we jumped out to a quick start and other than a lull in the second quarter, really kept our foot on the gas the whole night,” Koshar said.

Otsego led 20-2 after one quarter, 29-8 at halftime and 50-11 heading to the fourth quarter.

The Otsego girls basketball team earned the Wolverine Conference title with its win over Paw Paw. (Photo provided)

# Trailblazers win third SAC crown in a row

BY JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

GOBLES—Nothing was going to stop the Saugatuck girls basketball team from winning its third straight SAC Lakeshore championship.

Not even a partial power outage.

With the Trailblazers leading 2-0 against host Gobles on Friday, Feb. 20, power in half the gym went out, causing a brief delay. But neither the power outage nor the Tigers could slow down Saugatuck, which scored the game’s first 15 points en route to the 79-31 win.

The victory upped the Trailblazers’ record to 19-1 overall and 9-0 in the SAC Lakeshore, locking up the outright divisional crown for a third year in a row.

“This is a sign of our culture,” longtime Saugatuck coach Kevin Tringali said of the title. “It is a testament to the kids who have stuck in our program for a long time. You do something over a longer period of time in any sport, it leads back to the culture.”

Junior standout Mylah Simpson agreed with her coach’s assessment.

“This means a lot,” she said. “The biggest thing is we really play together. The coaches have obviously worked with us to make sure we’re always focusing and in the right mindset. No matter what kind of game it is—if it’s close or if we’re win-

ning by a lot—we stay focused because that helps us continue to be ready for bigger games.”

Simpson, who has been on varsity since her freshman year and has been a key contributor to the three titles, certainly appeared to be focused despite the lopsided nature of this game. She scored 19 points, which was good for second on the team.

Only senior Tali Laskowski scored more, netting 25 points. Laskowski, who was previously home schooled, transferred to Saugatuck last year, earning First Team All-State honors as a junior.

“It is so special to come into an already established community and be able to help along the way has just been amazing,” Laskowski said.

Senior Penny Grob, who has been a varsity player all four years of her college career and has been part of more wins than any player in program history, added 15 points. That included a trio of 3-pointers.

“We are so proud of ourselves,” Grob said. “We work so hard at practice every single day. Everyone has been keeping up their part of this journey on this team. And that’s really what got us here. We are all just staying together and working hard.”

Freshman Charlee Gustafson tacked on 11 points to give Saugatuck four double-digit scorers.

After the 15-0 start to the game, the Trailblazers led 22-6 after one quarter and 52-14 at the intermission.

By the start of the fourth quarter, the lead had ballooned to 65-18.

The game was the second in two nights for Saugatuck, which posted a 59-48 win over Galesburg-Augusta the previous evening.

That contest saw the Trailblazers take a 20-11 lead after eight minutes of play and slowly build on that throughout the remaining three quarters.

“We were a little sloppy tonight,” Tringali said. “Our kids are tired and it showed, but we found a way to fight through it like we have all season. It’s all about load management and staying healthy at this point.”

Laskowski had another big game, scoring 24 points with nine steals, seven rebounds and five assists.

Simpson scored 16 points with six rebounds, six steals and five assists, while Ada Roth contributed eight points. Grob chipped in with six points.

On Monday, Feb. 23, Saugatuck hosted South Haven.

And even though it took going to overtime to do it, the Trailblazers earned the 70-61 win over the Division 2 Rams.

The victory seals a second straight season without a home loss.

Simpson scored 25 points, including 6-of-6 at the line in OT. Laskowski hit a 3-pointer to start overtime and finished with 23 points.

“What a game,” Tringali said. “Every time we play them, it comes down to the end. This was a great test for both teams heading to the postseason.

“Our kids played with great composure and poise and we made big plays down the stretch that was the difference in the game.”

Saugatuck’s Mylah Simpson goes up for a basket in the game with Gobles. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

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ATHLETE

of the WEEK

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Chib Amaezchi</b> | <b>Alyssa Weldon</b> |
| Plainwell            | Plainwell            |
| Boys Basketball      | Girls Basketball     |

A pair of Plainwell basketball players reached a career milestone recently.

And they did so on the same night.

Plainwell seniors Chib Amaezchi and Alyssa Weldon each surpassed 1,000 points in career scoring in games versus Niles on Friday, Feb. 20.

The feat helped Amaezchi and Weldon further cement their legacies with the Trojans.

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# Hawkeyes avenge season-opening loss to Wayland

By Jason Wesseldyk  
SPORTS EDITOR

For the Hamilton boys basketball team, the season started with a loss to Wayland. Sophomore Garner Hulst did his part to make sure the Hawkeyes' season wouldn't end the same way. Hulst tallied a game-topping 27 points to help carry Hamilton to the 64-58 victory over Wayland in an opening-round Division 2 district clash on Monday, Feb. 23. The Hawkeyes were scheduled to face South Haven in a district semifinal on Wednesday, Feb. 25, with the winner advancing to the finals against either Hopkins or Holland Christian on Friday, Feb. 27. Tipoff for the title game is slated for 7 p.m. at Allegan High School.

The first half of the game was back and forth, with Wayland clinging to a 25-24 lead. But the Hawkeyes used a 19-7 edge in the third quarter to go up 43-32. The lead reached as many as 17 points in the fourth quarter before the Wildcats clawed their way back within striking distance, closing the gap to 60-55 following a 3-pointer from Brayden Calkins with 34.9 seconds left. Wayland would get no closer, however, as Hamilton buried four straight free throws—two from Hulst and two from Carter Hickok—to put the game out of reach. Colin Vork and Damen Sabala each added nine points for the Hawkeyes. Brady Perrin paced Wayland with 17 points, followed by Calkins with 12 and Nathan Ainsworth with nine.



Hamilton's Garner Hulst (4) battles Wayland's Brady Perrin (21) for a rebound. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

# Amaezechi, Weldon reach 1,000 points in career scoring

By Jason Wesseldyk  
SPORTS EDITOR

NILES—For high school basketball players, reaching the 1,000-point mark in career scoring is a rare accomplishment.

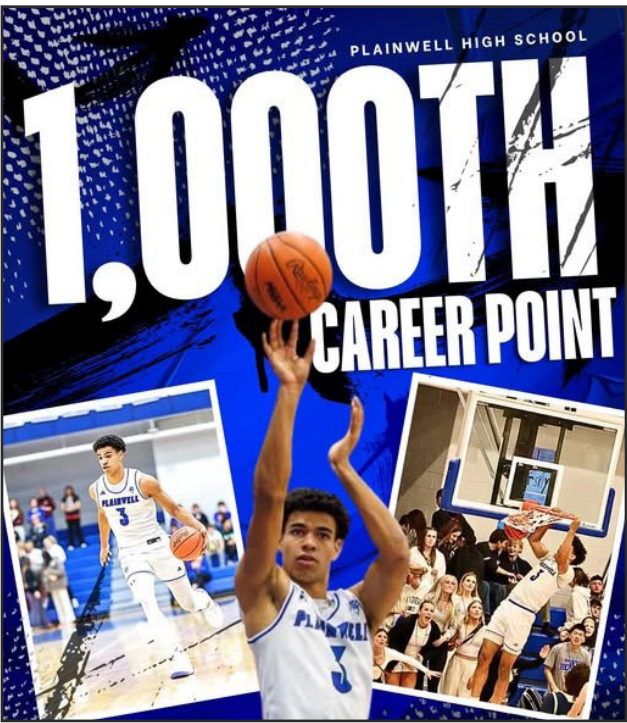
Plainwell had two players achieve that milestone on the same evening. Alyssa Weldon crossed the 1,000-point plateau in leading the Plainwell girls to the 49-42 win over host Niles before Chib Amaezechi crossed the 1,000-point

mark in the Plainwell boys team's 74-36 loss to Niles. Plainwell girls coach El-exis Buchanan has making sure Weldon achieved the

milestone was at the front of her team's collective mind. "Our whole team knew that this would be a special night going in and we made

it a goal before we even took the floor to help Alyssa reach such an important milestone in her life," Buchanan said. "We know that if one of us wins, we all win, and so they fed her the ball, and Alyssa just kept chipping away." Weldon finished with 23 points, pushing her career total to 1,011.

"The way that Alyssa's been a leader and contributor for this program over the years—especially this year—and with the grit and the heart that she shows night after night, she deserves every bit of this honor and recognition." The Plainwell girls led 15-6 after one quarter and were up 40-27 entering the fourth quarter.



# Saugatuck boys pick up second victory

By Jason Wesseldyk  
SPORTS EDITOR

SAUGATUCK—The final week of the regular season got off to a good start for the Saugatuck boys basketball team. Hosting Sacred Heart Academy, the Trailblazers overcame a 15-point deficit in the first half to claim the 47-42 victory. The win was the second of the season for Saugatuck, which snapped an eight-game losing skid for the second time. Sammy Gamboa led the charge for the Trailblazers, scoring a career-high 18 points. That included a 10-of-12 showing at the free throw line. "Sammy really stepped up for us," Saugatuck coach Ty Rock said. "He was being aggressive, which was great to see. The fact that he got to the line 12 times shows that he was being assertive with the ball." Gamboa's performance at the line highlighted a 21-of-26 effort for the team. The Trailblazers entered the game shooting 47 percent from the charity stripe. "The guys did a nice job at the line overall," Rock said. "We were shooting less than 50 percent as a team coming in, and that makes it tough. The reason we won tonight is because we shot well at the line." Clark Hamlin added 10 points in the win. The Bos brothers combined for 13 points, with Walt going for seven and Sam chipping in six. Saugatuck fell behind 25-10 to open the game, but scored the final 11 points of the first half to make it a 25-21 game. The third quarter ended tied at 37-37. Saugatuck scored the first five points of the final frame to take command. The rest of the week didn't go quite as well. After dropping a 60-36 decision to Galesburg-Augusta at home on Thursday, Feb. 19, Saugatuck fell 52-34 at Gobles on Friday, Feb. 20. The Trailblazers then traveled to Fennville to face Black River in a Division 3 district opener on Monday, Feb. 23, and lost 53-39 to bring the season to a close.

# Martin boys cruise past Covert in district opener

By Jason Wesseldyk  
SPORTS EDITOR

LAWRENCE—The postseason couldn't have started much better for the Martin boys basketball team. Taking on Covert in a Division 4 district opener on Monday, Feb. 23, the Clippers led 29-10 after one quarter and never slowed down in securing the 29-10 victory. Martin, which improved to 6-17, was slated to face site host Lawrence (12-10) in a district semifinal on Wednesday, Feb. 25. The winner will face either Benton Harbor Country-side Academy or Grace Christian in the district finals Friday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m.

"This was a good way to start off our second season," Martin coach Corby Callaway said. "We took care of business, everyone got to play a ton of minutes and now we have a day to get ready for Lawrence. The guys are excited for the opportunity." Blake Sweeting starred for Martin, collecting a double-double with 25 points and 10 rebounds. He also had five assists and four steals. Ethan Fitzpatrick added 16 points and five rebounds, while Jason Marshall had seven points, eight assists and three rebounds. Jackson Kennedy chipped in with six points and eight rebounds. The Clipper led 54-17 at halftime and 71-20 after three quarters.

The final week of the regular season saw Martin drop a trio of games, falling 53-52 to Black River (Friday, Feb. 20), 82-44 to Kalamazoo Christian (Wednesday, Feb. 18) and 61-28 to Gobles (Tuesday, Feb. 17). Martin led 42-38 heading to the fourth quarter against Black River, but was outscored 15-10 in the final frame. Marshall had 14 points and nine assists. Sweeting had 10 points and 12 rebounds, while Kennedy had 10 points and 11 rebounds. Fitzpatrick also had 10 points. Against Kalamazoo Christian, Sweeting had 15 points and Fitzpatrick had 14. Sweeting scored 10 points and had seven rebounds in the loss to Gobles.

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SPORTS

Clippers come up short against Decatur in regional final

By JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

MARTIN—Hosting a Division 4 regional on Wednesday, Feb. 18, the Martin wrestling team had a chance to take the next step in its return as a standalone program.

After advancing through the semifinals, the Clippers

met Decatur in the championship match. Despite several key victories, Martin fell 46–28 in the regional final.

Logan Curry (157) earned an 11–0 major decision to give the Clippers a boost, while Jacinto Lopez (113) secured a win by fall. Adler Hofer (126), Zaiden Buell (132) and Urjiah Joostberns

(138) also added victories for Martin.

But Decatur’s depth and bonus-point wins across the lineup proved decisive in the team outcome.

Earlier in the evening, the Clippers opened the regional with a 57–18 semifinal victory over Bangor.

Joostberns (138) and Curry (157) each won by

fall, while Haylen Buell (165) recorded a 21–5 technical fall. Peyton Schuring-Harris added a 10–3 decision at 285, and Carter Staton (106) and Hofer (126) each posted technical falls. Lopez (113), Anderson Keeler (175), Isaac Suk (215) and Zaiden Buell (132) also contributed wins

as Martin advanced to the championship round.

The regional marked another step in the program’s transition back to competing solely as Martin after several seasons in a co-op with Climax-Scotts.

Last year, while still in the co-op, the team advanced to the Division 4 state finals.

Although the team’s post-season run ended at the regional stage, the Clippers quickly regrouped. Three days later, six Martin wrestlers placed in the top four at the individual regional tournament to qualify for the Division 4 individual state championships at Ford Field in Detroit.

Trojans succumb to Three Rivers in regionals

By JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

MIDDLEVILLE—The Plainwell wrestling team came out firing in its Division 2 regional final Wednesday, Feb. 18, building an early lead before Three Rivers seized control down the stretch.

The Trojans ultimately fell 43–14 in the championship match.

Dylan Nieuwenhuis opened the dual at 126 pounds with a 19–4 technical fall, giving Plainwell a 5–0 advantage. After six matches, the Trojans still held a narrow 14–13 lead as Austin Gyorkos earned a 14–7 decision at 144 and Aiden Beck picked up a fall at 157.

But Three Rivers responded with a decisive run in the middle and upper weights, winning the next six matches—all by pin—to turn a one-point deficit into a commanding lead. The final three weight classes were double forfeits.

Plainwell reached the championship match after surviving a one-point thriller in the semifinals.

The Trojans edged host Middleville Thornapple Kellogg 36–35 in a dual that came down to the final matches.

Dylan Nieuwenhuis (120), Grady Erlandson (126) and Brennan Dull (132) each recorded falls, while Gyorkos (144) and Thomas Almaguer (150) added key victories.

Madison Nieuwenhuis capped the effort with a win at 106 as Plainwell held off Middleville’s late push.

Hamilton swim falls

By JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Hamilton boys swim team fell to Grand Rapids Christian 94–91 on Tuesday, Feb. 17.

The Hawkeyes captured five events on the day, highlighted by a strong performance from Jack Langeland. Langeland won the 200-yard freestyle in 1:53.58 and later

swam a leg on the victorious 400-yard frees relay team.

Jayden Bierschbach won diving with a score of 259.75, while Brett Vandenberg touched first in the 100-yard butterfly in 57.92.

Hamilton closed the meet with a win in the 400 freestyle relay, as Langeland, Reece Nykamp, Cillian Slater and Vandenberg combined for a time of 3:39.74.



Logan Curry competes in the regional finals against Decatur. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Longcore leads Otsego boys in district opener

By JASON WESSELDYK  
SPORTS EDITOR

VICKSBURG—With a pair of players—Wyatt Dennis and Max Mercer—unavailable due to sickness, Otsego boys basketball coach Matt Dennis wasn’t sure what to expect in his team’s Division 2 district opener on Monday, Feb. 23.

As it turned out, he had nothing to worry about.

Led by a career-high 35-point effort from Leeland Longcore, the Bulldogs rolled to a 71–58 win over Three Rivers.

The win put Otsego in the district semifinals against Paw Paw on Wednesday, Feb. 25. The winner of that game is scheduled to vie for the district title

against either Vicksburg or Parchment on Friday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m.

The game didn’t start particularly well for the Bulldogs, as they fell behind 8–0. But Otsego ended the first quarter on a 12–2 run to take a 12–10 lead. Longcore scored eight of those points.

“Once we settled in, our 2–1–2 press really bothered them and flipped the momentum,” Matt Dennis said.

Otsego’s lead stood at 34–20 at halftime, as Owen Santman scored all 10 of his points in the second period.

Longcore scored 22 of his points in the second half, going for 10 in the third quarter and 12 in the fourth to make sure Three Rivers couldn’t mount a comeback.

“Leeland was aggressive on offense all night,” Matt Dennis said.

Colin Fitzpatrick and 10 points, Kal-El Leonard had five and Merrill Bailey and Jack Cook had four points each. Brody Smith (three points) and Roman Busscher (two points) rounded out the scoring.

“I was especially proud of our bench,” Matt Dennis said. “Kal-El Leonard, Merrill Bailey and Colin Fitzpatrick stepped in and gave us great minutes. Brody Smith also played a ton and handled the ball under pressure, which let us move Leeland around and keep him fresh.”

The previous week, Otsego lost three games: 64–52 to Paw Paw on Friday, Feb. 20; 74–68 to South Haven on Wednesday, Feb. 18; and 76–73 to Vicksburg on Tuesday, Feb. 17.



Thomas Almaguer battles in a regional semifinal with Middleville. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

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TOWNSHIP OF HOPKINS  
NOTICE OF BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

The Hopkins Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2026/2027 at Hopkins Township Hall, 128 S. Franklin Street, Hopkins, Allegan County, Michigan on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at [www.hopkintownship.org](http://www.hopkintownship.org) or 128 S Franklin Street, Hopkins, Michigan.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41 .72a (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act. (ADA).

The Hopkins Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon six days notice to the Hopkins Township Board.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hopkins Township Board by writing or calling the following: Stacey Timmer, Hopkins Township Clerk, PO Box 217, Hopkins, MI 49328 or (269) 793-3188

By Resolution of the Hopkins Township Board, Annual Meetings are discontinued.

Stacey Timmer  
Hopkins Township Clerk

NOTICE

Martin Township is now accepting bids for lawn care for the 2026 year. This is to include Martin Township Hall, JC Wheeler Library, empty lot across the street from Township, Old East and South Cemeteries. Deadline for bids is March 9, 2026. Please send sealed bids to Jennifer Wharton, Attn: Lawn care bid, PO Box 27, Martin, MI 49070.

PUBLIC NOTICE  
VALLEY TOWNSHIP BUDGET  
PUBLIC HEARING

The Valley Township Board will hold its public hearing on the Proposed Budget for 2026-2027 Fiscal Year at the Valley Township Hall, 2054 North M-40, Allegan, Michigan on Tuesday, March 10, 2025 at 7:30 PM.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

Copies of the proposed Annual Budget are available to the public by contacting Brandee Ellis, Clerk, and will be on the agenda for discussion. This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3).

Brandee Ellis  
Valley Township Clerk

NOTICE  
MONTEREY TOWNSHIP  
2026 BOARD OF REVIEW

TO ALL TOWNSHIP TAXPAYERS:  
THE 2026 BOARD OF REVIEW FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTEREY WILL MEET AT THE MONTEREY COMMUNITY BUILDING, 2999 30TH STREET, ON

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

HEARING APPEALS  
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026  
from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
and  
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026  
from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The tentative recommended equalization ratios and estimated multipliers (factors) necessary to compute state equalized values of real and personal property in the Township of Monterey for 2026 are:

| CLASS RATIO  | (%)   | MULTIPLIER |
|--------------|-------|------------|
| AGRICULTURAL | 44.40 | 1.1261     |
| COMMERCIAL   | 44.07 | 1.1346     |
| INDUSTRIAL   | 45.84 | 1.0908     |
| RESIDENTIAL  | 44.63 | 1.1203     |
| PERSONAL     | 50.00 | 1.00000    |

By Board resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided the protest letter is received by the Assessor before 5:00 P.M. on Friday, March 6, 2026. For an appointment please call (269) 358-8727.

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Monterey Township Assessor  
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Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement  
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement.  
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on 3/19/2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Names of Mortgagor(s): Christopher Madalinski and Brandi Madalinski. Original mortgage: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Guaranteed Rate, Inc. Date of mortgage: 5/6/2022. Mortgage recorded on 7/27/2022 as Document No. 2022014735, in Liber 4782, Page 776. Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: \$58,292.34. Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PREMISES SITUATED IN THE CITY OF ALLEGAN, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN AND STATE OF MICHIGAN, TO-WIT: PARCEL 1: BEGINNING AT THE WESTERLY MOST CORNER OF LOT 1, BLOCK "F" OF JAMES B. STREETER'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN; THENCE NORTH 39 DEGREES 19' 33" EAST 89.65 FEET (PLATTED AS NORTH 39 DEGREES 30' EAST), ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF JULIA STREET; THENCE SOUTH 56 DEGREES 12' 02" EAST, 132.69 FEET TO THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 1; THENCE SOUTH 39 DEGREES 12' 34" WEST, ON SAID SOUTHEASTERLY LOT

LINE, 88.62 FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY MOST CORNER OF SAID LOT 1; THENCE NORTH 56 DEGREES 38' 07" WEST, ON THE SOUTHWESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 1, 132.97 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. AND PARCEL 2: COMMENCING AT THE WESTERLY MOST CORNER OF LOT 1, BLOCK "F" OF JAMES B. STREETER'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN; RUNNING THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 1, 192 FEET, THENCE DUE WEST 148.3 FEET TO A POINT WHICH IS 231 FEET EAST OF THE EAST 1/8TH IN THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, THENCE DUE NORTH 132 FEET TO THE CENTER OF JULIA STREET, IF EXTENDED, THENCE EASTERLY ALONG SAID CENTERLINE 14 FEET, THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY 33 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, BEING A PART OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST. Commonly known as 313 Julia St, Allegan, MI 49010. The redemption period will be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after the statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241, the redemption period will be 1 month from the date of such sale. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes pursuant to MCL 600.3240(16), the redemption period is 1 year from the date of such sale. The redemption period may be extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the

property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Date of Notice: 02/05/2026. Codilis & Moody, P.C. 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (313) 536-2500. This law firm is a debt collector. C&M File 23-25-00248 (02-05)(02-26)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement.  
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on MARCH 19, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Jackson D. Hasty, an unmarried man, to Fifth Third Mortgage, MI, LLC., Mortgagee, dated January 9, 2017

and recorded January 12, 2017 in Liber 4104, Page 805 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Fifth Third Bank, National Association as successor by merger to FIFTH THIRD MORTGAGE COMPANY, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-One Thousand and 94/100 Dollars (\$121,000.94).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on MARCH 19, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Martin, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

THAT PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 3, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, MARTIN TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT FOUND BY COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION; THENCE SOUTH 90° 00'00" WEST ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION, 495.24 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THIS DESCRIPTION; THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH 90° 00'00" WEST ON SAID SOUTH SECTION LINE, 165.07 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00° 01'40" EAST PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/8 LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST 1/4, 622.81 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION; THENCE NORTH 89° 57'11" EAST ON SAID NORTH LINE, 165.15 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00° 02'05" WEST 662.75 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THIS DESCRIPTION. 421 122nd Ave, Shelbyville, Michigan 49344

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless deter

NOTICE  
OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION  
CITY OF ALLEGAN  
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY OF ALLEGAN, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following is a sample of Ordinance 535, which was adopted by the Allegan City Council at a regular meeting held February 23, 2026.

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOT) IN THE AMOUNT OF 3% FOR PARCEL 03-51-251-041-00

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the full text of the City of Allegan Ordinance 535 is available at City Hall, 231 Trowbridge St, during normal business hours, or upon request form the Allegan City Clerk.

Carol Canales,  
Deputy Clerk  
City of Allegan  
231 Trowbridge St  
Allegan, MI 49010  
(269) 673-5511

TROWBRIDGE  
TOWNSHIP  
ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS

TO: RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF TROWBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Trowbridge Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on March 19, 2026 at 7 p.m. at the Trowbridge Township Hall, 913 S. M-40, within the Township, to consider the following:

1. Zoning Ordinance text amendments to add the definition of short term rental to Section 3.20; amend Sections 5.03, 6.03, 7.03 and 8.03 to add short term rentals as special exception uses and to amend Section 15.22 Solar Energy Collectors.
2. Such other and further business as may properly come before the Planning Commission at said hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that following the public hearing, the Planning Commission will make recommendations on the text amendments to the Township Board. The proposed text amendments will be available for review at the Township Hall at any time during regular business hours of regular business days and will also be available at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that written comments will be received at the office of the Township Clerk at any time during regular business hours of regular days and will further be received by the Planning Commission at the time of the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Trowbridge Township will provide necessary, services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon seven (7) days' notice to the Trowbridge Township Clerk of the need for the same.

All persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place to participate in discussion on the above.

TROWBRIDGE TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
Dave Smalla, Trowbridge Township Clerk  
913 S. M-40  
Allegan, MI 49010  
269-673-8189

ALLEGAN COUNTY  
ROAD COMMISSION  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
PRIMARY AND LOCAL ROAD GUARDRAIL  
SPRAYING

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M-89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 A.M., Local Time, March 11, 2026, and, at such time, be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

PRIMARY AND LOCAL ROAD GUARDRAIL SPRAYING – Chemical spraying around guardrail for vegetation control on various primary and local roads in Allegan County.

Complete specifications and bid forms are available at the Road Commission office and the Road Commission website [www.alleganroads.org](http://www.alleganroads.org) under the Projects link. When accessing plans from the website, please send an email to [jlemaire@alleganroads.org](mailto:jlemaire@alleganroads.org) to be added to the plan holders list.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the Road Commission and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

A bid deposit of at least 5% of the bid amount will be required for this item. The bid deposit may be in the form of certified check, cashier's check or bid bond.

The Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman  
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman  
Harold Hamlin, Commissioner

NOTICE  
Valley Township  
2026 Board of Review

The Valley Township Board of Review will be held at the Valley Township Hall, 2054 N. M-40, Allegan, MI 49010, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 3, 11 AM – Organizational Meeting only  
Tuesday, March 10, 9 AM to 12 PM and 1 PM to 4 PM – Appeal Hearing  
Friday, March 13, 1 PM to 4 PM and 6 PM to 9 PM – Appeal Hearing

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2026 assessments. Letters are accepted as appeal, provided they are received prior to the first appeal hearing. Send letter to the Valley Township Board of Review, 2054 N. M-40, Allegan, MI 49010.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2026 as provided by the Allegan County Equalization Department are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 43.64% | 1.14573 |
| Commercial        | 50.30% | 0.99403 |
| Industrial        | 49.14% | 1.00000 |
| Residential       | 47.86% | 1.04471 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.00000 |

State Equalized Value (SEV) represents 50% of the True Cash Value of the property. Taxable Value (TV) is the lower of the SEV or the 2025 TV multiplied by the Inflation Rate Multiplier (1.027). Transfers of ownership in 2025 will cause the cap in taxable value to be removed, making the taxable value equal to the SEV for 2026.

Mike Kratovich  
Valley Township Supervisor

Krista Simmons  
Valley Township Assessor



PUBLIC NOTICES

mined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: February 5, 2026  
File No. 26-000826  
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC  
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48064  
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 (02-05)(02-26)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 5, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michael Kuhn a married man and Jami Kuhn his wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services LLC

Date of Mortgage: May 22, 2014  
Date of Mortgage Recording: June 2, 2014

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$99,936.22

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Dorr, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Beginning at the center of Section 20, Town 4 North, Range 12 West; thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East on the North and South 1/4 line 301.77 feet; thence South 89 degrees 44 minutes 30 seconds West 340.0 feet; thence North 48 degrees 15 minutes 53 seconds East 455.62 feet to the Place of B.

Common street address (if any): 4092 21st St, Dorr, MI 49323-9471

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: February 5, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.  
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
(248) 642-2515  
1584172  
(02-05)(02-26)

MORTGAGE SALE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on March 19, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default having been made in the terms and conditions of that certain Mortgage dated November 9, 2022 ("Mortgage"), made by EVO SAUGATUCK HOLDINGS LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, as mortgagor ("Mortgagor") to REDLAND HOLDINGS, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, as mortgagee ("Mortgagee"), recorded on November 15, 2022 in Liber 4816, Page 344, Allegan County Records; on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due, as of February 5, 2026, the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Nine and

63/100 Dollars (\$2,583,459.63) ("Indebtedness") as of the date of this Mortgage Sales Notice. The mortgaged premises are described as follows: land, fixtures, easements and improvements situated in the Township of Saugatuck, Allegan County, Michigan, described as follows: PARCEL A: That part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 21, Town 3 North, Range 16 West, Saugatuck Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of said Section; thence South 00°39'57" East 719.78 feet along the West line of said Section to the South line of the North 66.00 feet of the South 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section; thence North 89°10'09" East 85.00 feet along said South line to the East right of way line of Blue Star Highway and the Point of Beginning; thence continuing North 89°10'09" East 400.00 feet; thence South 00°39'57" East 300.00 feet; thence South 89°10'09" West 400.00 feet to said East right of way line; thence North 00°39'57" West 300.00 feet along said right of way line to the Point of Beginning. TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO a 66.00 foot wide easement for ingress, egress and utilities over that part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 21, Town 3 North, Range 16 West, Saugatuck Township, Allegan County, Michigan, the centerline of which is described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 corner of said Section; thence South 00°39'57" East 686.78 feet along the West line of said Section to the South line of the North 33.00 feet of the South 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section and the Point of Beginning; thence North 89°10'09" East 452.00 feet along said South line; thence South 00°39'57" East 634.00 feet to the Point of Ending of said centerline. Tax Parcel No: 20-021-026-20 Common Address: 6790 Just Barns Drive, Fennville, MI 49408-8100 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or if determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c); or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated February 5, 2026, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan Redland Holdings, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company Mortgagee Honigman LLP By: Jeffrey S. Horowitz Attorneys for Mortgagor 39400 Woodward Avenue Suite 101 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5151 (248) 566-8686 (02-05)(02-26)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on MARCH 19, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kyle L. Rayburn, to PNC Bank, N.A., Mortgagee, dated October 8, 2021 and recorded October 15, 2021 in Liber 4683, Page 972 Allegan County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand Three Hundred Sixty and 2/100 Dollars (\$183,360.02).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on MARCH 19, 2026.

Said premises are located in the City of Otsego, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

LOT 51, ELEY ACRES III, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 14 OF PLATS, PAGE 11, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS.

1009 Barton Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: February 5, 2026

## LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP

### Budget Public Hearing (Truth in Taxation) Notice

The Leighton Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 at the Leighton Township Hall, 4451 12th St., Wayland MI on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.** A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the Leighton Township Hall.

The Leighton Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon seven days notice to the Leighton Township Board.

Note: Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Leighton Township Board by writing or calling the following:

Rachel Fennema  
4451 12th St., Suite A  
Wayland MI 49348  
(616) 891-8238

Notice complies with MCL 141.436 & MCL 211.24e

## Hopkins Township

### 2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 128 S Franklin St, Hopkins, MI 49328 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: 1:00pm Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026: 2:00pm to 5:00pm & 6:00pm to 9:00pm  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026: 9:00am to Noon & 1:00pm to 4:00pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00pm March 9, 2026. Mailing address is PO Box 217, Hopkins, MI 49328.

|                                                                     |        |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows: |        |         |
| Agricultural                                                        | 40.53% | 1.23365 |
| Commercial                                                          | 47.49% | 1.05285 |
| Industrial                                                          | 47.40% | 1.05485 |
| Residential                                                         | 45.80% | 1.09170 |
| Developmental                                                       | 48.20% | 1.03734 |
| Personal Property                                                   | 50.00% | 1.00000 |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Cade Bolser, Hopkins Township Supervisor  
Grey Castello, Hopkins Township Assessor

## NOTICE

### Martin Township

#### 2026 Board of Review

The Martin Township Board of Review will be held at the Township Hall (Fire Hall), 988 Templeton, Martin, MI 49070, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 3, 9:00 a.m. — Organizational Meeting only  
Monday, March 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. — Appeal Hearing  
Thursday, March 12, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. — Appeal Hearing

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2026 assessments. Letters are accepted as appeal, provided they are received prior to the first appeal hearing. Send letter to the Martin Township Board of Review, PO Box 184, Martin, MI 49070.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2026 as provided by the Allegan County Equalization Department are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 38.65% | 1.29366 |
| Commercial        | 46.12% | 1.08412 |
| Industrial        | 48.73% | 1.02606 |
| Residential       | 47.02% | 1.06337 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.00000 |

State Equalized Value (SEV) represents 50% of the True Cash Value of the property. Taxable Value (TV) is the lower of the SEV or the 2025 TV multiplied by the Inflation Rate Multiplier (1.027). Transfers of ownership in 2025 will cause the cap in taxable value to be removed, making the taxable value equal to the SEV for 2026.

Glenn Leep  
Martin Township Supervisor  
Krista Simmons  
Martin Township Assessor

## DORR TOWNSHIP

### NOTICE OF MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW HEARINGS

The Board of Review will be meeting in March to review the Assessment Roll and hear appeals. All meetings will be held at the Dorr Township Hall, 1683 142<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Dorr, Michigan 49323. The hearings will begin on March 9, 2026. HEARINGS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Please call Dorr Township Office Manager, Vicki Fifelski at 616-681-9874 ext. 105 for available appointments.

If the times available are not convenient, you may appeal by letter. Send letters to Dorr Township, 4196 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Dorr, MI 49323. All letters must be received by 5:00 p.m. 3-10-2025.

Monday March 9<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am to 12:00pm 1 pm to 4 pm  
Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
6 pm to 9:00 pm

Assessments have been adjusted to result in anticipated multipliers of 1.0000 for all classes. With "Proposal A" in effect, the Taxable Values, excluding new construction and ownership transfers, are capped at the inflation rate of 5% for the 2025 tax year. Taxes are based on Taxable Value. Also, note that if you should have a Principal Residence Exemption on your property and this is not noted on your notice, you should contact the Assessor.

|                                      |       |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------------|
| 2025 Starting Ratios are as follows: |       | Factors:    |
| Ag:                                  | 44.59 | Ag: 1.1213  |
| Com:                                 | 51.28 | com: 0.9750 |
| Ind:                                 | 35.53 | Ind: 1.4072 |
| Res:                                 | 47.73 | Res: 1.0475 |

Michael Richmond, Dorr Township Assessor

## TOWNSHIP OF CLYDE

### ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

#### NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Township of Clyde Board of Review will meet Monday March 9, 2026, from 3:00pm-9:00pm and Tuesday March 10, 2026, 9:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-4:00pm at the Clyde Township Hall, 1679 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Fennville Michigan.

Written petitions may also be sent to the Board of Review at 2386 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Fennville Michigan 49408. Property owners or their representatives must contest at the local board of review if they intend to appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

Ratio of State Equalized Value to True Cash Value: 50%

|              |            |       |
|--------------|------------|-------|
|              | Multiplier | Ratio |
| Agricultural | 1.07968    | 46.31 |
| Commercial   | 1.05574    | 47.36 |
| Residential  | 1.15393    | 43.33 |
| Development  | NC         | NC    |
| Personal     | 1.0000     | 50.00 |
| Industrial   | 1.12994    | 44.25 |

Tommie L. Giles  
Clyde Township Supervisor  
269-561-5214

## CITY OF WAYLAND

### 2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the City Hall, 103 S Main St, Waland, MI 49348 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: 10:00am Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026: 9:00am to Noon & 1:00pm to 4:00pm  
Wednesday, March 11, 2026: 2:00pm to 5:00pm & 6:00pm to 9:00pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00pm March 10, 2026. Mailing address is 103 S. Main St., Wayland, MI 49348.

|                                                                     |        |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows: |        |         |
| Agricultural                                                        | NC     | NC      |
| Commercial                                                          | 50.11% | 0.99780 |
| Industrial                                                          | 41.39% | 1.20802 |
| Residential                                                         | 44.77% | 1.11682 |
| Personal Property                                                   | 50.00% | 1.00000 |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Erik Wilson, Wayland City Manager  
Grey Castello, Wayland City Assessor



PUBLIC NOTICES

File No. 26-000606  
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC  
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084  
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 (02-05)(02-26)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement  
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 19, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Danny G. Oxford and Vickie L. Oxford, husband and wife

Original Mortgage: PNC Bank, National Association, successor by merger to National City Bank, successor by merger to National City Mortgage, a division of National City Bank of Indiana

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None  
Date of Mortgage: July 7, 2005  
Date of Mortgage Recording: July 14, 2005

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$181,598.62

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Trowbridge, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land situated in the Northeast 1/4 of Section 35, Town 1 North, Range 13 West, Trowbridge Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Described as: Beginning at the Point on the Eastline of Said Section 35 Distant North 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 30 seconds East 658.92 Feet from the East 1/4 Post of said section 35; Thence North 89 Degrees 41 minutes 13 seconds West 3295.28 Feet to the West Line of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Said Section 35. Thence North 00 Degrees 08 Minutes 14 seconds West Along said West Line of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 a distance of 330.00 Feet; Thence South 89 degrees 41 minutes 46 seconds East 3294.44 Feet to said East Section Line; Thence South 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 30 seconds along said East Section Line, 329.46 Feet to the place of beginning. Excepting therefrom that portion of land conveyed to Danny G. and Vicki L. Oxford by deed recorded September 28, 2010, in Book 3452, Page 794 of official records.

Common street address (if any): 132 26th St, Allegan, MI 49010-8779

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector.  
Date of notice: February 12, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.  
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
(248) 642-2515  
1584603  
(02-12)(03-05)

TO ALL CREDITORS: The Settlor, Ja Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement.  
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on MARCH 19, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Douglas J. Meisel, Jr., aka Douglas Meisel, aka Douglas John Meisel, a married man and Jacqueline M. Meisle, his spouse, as husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Independent Bank, its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated January 10, 2020 and recorded January 16, 2020 in Instrument Number 2020-000590

Barry County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by PHH Asset Services LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Nine and 16/100 Dollars (\$178,589.16).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on MARCH 19, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Orangeville, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Unit No. 11, Whispering Pines Estates, Orangeville Township, Barry County, Michigan, according to the Master Deed recorded in Instrument No. 1023989, as amended, and designated as Barry County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 12, together with rights in the general common elements and the limited common elements as shown on the Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended.  
6986 Lafontaine Dr, Plainwell, Michigan 49080

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: February 12, 2026  
File No. 26-000018  
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084  
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 (02-12)(03-05)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE  
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00am on Thursday April 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE –Rex Loveless III, a married man, original mortgagor, granted a Mortgage to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as nominee for Success Mortgage Partners, Inc., dated October 22, 2021 and recorded November 2, 2021 in Liber 4691, Page 275 as Instrument No. 2021026402; and assigned Data Mortgage, Inc. DBA Essex Mortgage by document recorded January 2, 2025 in Liber 5001, Page 402 as Instrument No. 2025000004 in official records of Allegan County Register of Deeds, Michigan, which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of \$236,077.59. The following LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS INSTRUMENT, SITUATED IN THE CITY OF HOLLAND, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN, IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

THE WEST 223.32 FEET OF THE NORTH 172.08 FEET OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 15 WEST, CITY OF HOLLAND, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Commonly known as: 995 Graafschap Road, Holland, MI 49423 Tax Parcel: 03-03-02-06-300-023 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241, in which case the redemption period shall be 1 month, or under MCL 600.3241a 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a (b) notice, whichever is later, or extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice ATTENTION PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. This notice is from a debt collector. Dated: February 16, 2026 For more information, please call: (513) 852-6066 Daniel A. Cox Wood + Lamping, LLP Attorneys for Servicer 600 Vine Street, Suite 2500, Cincinnati, OH 45202 File 26-01064 (02-19)(03-12)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

TOWNSHIP OF CHESHIRE

2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 104<sup>th</sup> Ave & 41<sup>st</sup> St, Allegan, MI 49010 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: 1:30 pm Organizational Meeting  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Thursday, March 12, 2026: 9:00 am – Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 11, 2026. Mailing address is 817 Windigo Ln. Otsego, MI 49078.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 40.70% | 1.22850 |
| Commercial        | 41.71% | 1.19875 |
| Industrial        | 45.00% | 1.11111 |
| Residential       | 43.66% | 1.14521 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.0000  |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Steve Revor, Supervisor  
Cheshire Township  
Heather Mitchell, Assessor  
Cheshire Township

GUN PLAIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 381 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Plainwell, MI 49080 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: 9:00 am Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Wednesday, March 11, 2026: 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 10, 2026. Mailing address is 381 8<sup>th</sup> St., Plainwell, MI 49080.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 40.17% | 1.24471 |
| Commercial        | 46.37% | 1.07828 |
| Industrial        | 44.48% | 1.12410 |
| Residential       | 45.24% | 1.10522 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.00000 |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Michael VanDenBerg,  
Supervisor Gun Plain Charter Township  
Heather Mitchell,  
Assessor Gun Plain Charter Township

TOWNSHIP OF SALEM

2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 3003 142<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Burnips, MI 49314 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: Noon Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026: 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Wednesday, March 11, 2026: 9:00 am – Noon

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 10, 2026. Mailing address is P.O. Box 49 Burnips, MI 49314.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 42.55% | 1.17509 |
| Commercial        | 49.10% | 1.01833 |
| Industrial        | 35.69% | 1.40095 |
| Residential       | 44.17% | 1.13199 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.0000  |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Jim Pitsch, Supervisor Salem Township  
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Salem Township

TOWNSHIP OF ALLEGAN

2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 3037 118<sup>th</sup> Ave, Allegan, MI 49010 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: 4:30 pm Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026: 9:00 am – Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 9, 2026. Mailing address is 3037 118<sup>th</sup> Ave. Allegan, MI 49010.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 40.28% | 1.24131 |
| Commercial        | 45.69% | 1.09433 |
| Industrial        | 49.54% | 1.00929 |
| Residential       | 45.42% | 1.10084 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.00000 |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Stephen A. Schulz,  
Supervisor Allegan Township  
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Allegan Township

TOWNSHIP OF TROWBRIDGE

2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 913 S M-40 Hwy, Allegan, MI 49010 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: 3:00 pm Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026: 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026: 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 9, 2026. Mailing address is 913 S M-40 Hwy Allegan, MI 49010.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 42.87% | 1.16632 |
| Commercial        | 39.21% | 1.27518 |
| Industrial        | 44.99% | 1.11136 |
| Residential       | 46.98% | 1.06428 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.00000 |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Jeff Kaylor, Supervisor Trowbridge Township  
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Trowbridge Township

WAYLAND TOWNSHIP

2026 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 1060 129<sup>th</sup> Ave., Shelbyville, MI 49344 to examine and review the 2026 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: 10:30 am Organizational Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026: 2:00 pm 5:00pm and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026: 9:00 am to Noon  
Thursday, March 12, 2026: 9:00 am to Noon

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 10, 2026. Mailing address is PO Box 1, Bradley, MI 49311.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2026 are as follows:

|                   |        |         |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Agricultural      | 40.08% | 1.24750 |
| Commercial        | 45.12% | 1.10816 |
| Industrial        | 43.94% | 1.13792 |
| Residential       | 45.86% | 1.09027 |
| Personal Property | 50.00% | 1.0000  |

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Roger VanVolkinburg,  
Supervisor Wayland Township  
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Wayland Township



PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 19, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew Eldean and Jami Eldean, husband and wife and Matthew Eldean, Trustee of the Matthew Eldean Trust Dated 12/19/2002.

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union.

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: August 26, 2015

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 23, 2015

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$299,489.66

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Laketown, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 4 North, Range 16 West, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 89 degrees 16 minutes 58 seconds East 2649.64 feet along the North line of said Southwest 1/4 to the Central 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 805.00 feet along the East line of said Southwest 1/4 to the place of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 366.34 feet along said East line; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 50 seconds West 578.31 feet; thence Northwesterly 67.99 feet along the arc of a 60.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 34 degrees 18 minutes 26 seconds West 64.41 feet; thence Northwesterly 46.17 feet along the arc of a 50.00 foot radius curve to the right, the chord of which bears North 40 degrees 19 minutes 03 seconds West 44.54 feet; thence Northwesterly 34.55 feet along the arc of a 383.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 16 degrees 27 minutes 04 seconds West 34.54 feet; thence North 69 degrees 24 minutes 38 seconds East 698.15 feet to the place of beginning, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 4657 Arbor Tri, Holland, MI 49423-8901

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: February 19, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1585147

(02-19)(03-12)

ALLEGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Trust

In the matter of the Algridas Vileisis Revocable Trust established June 1, 2017; restated October 1, 2019, May 30, 2025, and July 15, 2025; amended September 30, 2017, and September 13, 2024.

Algridas Vileisis was the grantor of the Trust and his date of birth was September 29, 1949.

TO ALL CREDITORS: \*\*

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Algridas Vileisis, died November 27, 2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Robert Brittain, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Jessica Arends P75919

321 Settlers Road

Holland, MI 49423

816-392-1821

Robert Brittain

4570 Lena Smith Blvd.

Minneapolis, MN 55406

303-918-2852

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

ALLEGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. 25-66001 DE and JUDGE

Court address: 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of Felix J. Survilla Date of Birth: 05/30/1931

TO ALL CREDITORS: \*\*

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Felix J. Survilla, died 11/10/2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jo Survilla, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Michael B. Walling P55771

4625 Beckley Road, Bldg. 400

Battle Creek, Michigan 49015

269-968-1101

Jo Survilla

PO Box 22

Otsego, MI 49078

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement: Notice is given under section 49c of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1449c, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding

the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 02, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Danny Creswell, unmarried man Original Mortgagee: Union Home Mortgage Corp. Date of mortgage: January 24, 2024 Recorded on February 16, 2024, Liber 4921, on Page 75, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Michigan State Housing Development Authority Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Three and 00/100 Dollars (\$155,933.00) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Lot 717, The Original Plat of the Village (now City) of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 7 of Plats, Page 344, Allegan County Records. Commonly known as 207 Cherry St, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 125.1449v, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 125.1449v(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Michigan State Housing Development Authority Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman &

Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400 1585491 (02-19)(03-12)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable) whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: THEODORE JAMES GREEN, III has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026 AT 1:00 PM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848, to change the name of: THEODORE JAMES GREEN, III to ABRAXAS LUCIFER JEDIDIAH CHRISTOS

Notice to Creditors

Estate of Blair C. VanOss Date of Birth: September 26, 1952 TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Blair C. VanOss, of 5731 Old Allegan Road, Hamilton, MI 49419, Allegan County, Michigan died November 17, 2025.

Creditors of Blair C. VanOss are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to: Brent A. VanOss, Trustee of the VanOss Protection Trust, u/d/d November 6, 2024, care of Carrier Law, P.C., 4965 East Bellline Avenue NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49525 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

February 6, 2026

David L. Carrier P41531

4965 East Bellline Avenue NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 361-8400 Brent A. VanOss 5731 Old Allegan Road Hamilton, MI 49419

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable) whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: JESSICA ERIN LEDFORD has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026 AT 11:45 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848, to change the name of: JESSICA ERIN LEDFORD to JESSICA ERIN BROWN

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement.

Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military

service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Andy Ai, a married man, sole owner, ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Consumers Credit Union, ("Mortgagee"), dated October 30, 2020, and recorded on November 4, 2020, in Liber 4533, on Page 545, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars and 03/100 Dollars (\$149,900.03) plus accrued interest at 2.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale

of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 16, 2026. Said premises are situated in the Township of Clyde, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: The South 208.75 feet of the West 208.75 feet of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 14, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, Commonly, 5159 118th Ave., Fennville, MI 49408—Tax Id #04-014-014-00 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who

## Notice of Lawn Bidding Opportunity

Monterey Township is looking for a vendor to provide lawncare services for the Poplar Hill Cemetery and the Monterey Township Community Building. Please visit [montereytownship.org](http://montereytownship.org) for further information. Bids are due prior to the township annual board meeting at 12:00pm on March 14th 2026. Any questions please contact Henry Reinart at 269/793-2014 x1.



### NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

**Date of Publication: Thursday, February 26**  
**Michigan State Housing Development Authority**  
735 East Michigan Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48912  
517-335-2524

**On or after March 6** the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) will submit a request to the HUD Office of Community Planning and Development for the release of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following project:

**Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title:** Five Year Environmental Review for MSHDA CDBG-Funded Homeowner Rehabilitation  
**Purpose:** MSHDA will provide units of local government with funds to provide homeowners, within their jurisdictions, earning at or below 80% of the area median income with assistance for essential home repairs.  
**Location:** The program will service single family homes within Mason, Lake, Osceola, Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa, Ionia, Allegan, and Barry Counties.  
**Project/Program Description:** The CDBG Homeowner Rehabilitation Program aims to improve quality of life for local residents by funding essential home repairs for properties occupied by households earning at or below 80% of the area median income. All repairs must: be eligible under CDBG guidelines as defined in the MSHDA CDBG Policy Manual; comply with local building codes; and meet the MSHDA Housing Rehabilitation Standards.

**Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.**  
**Level of Environmental Review Citation:** 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i)

**Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:** Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]; Flood Insurance [Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]]; Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d); Contamination and Toxic Substances [24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]; Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402; Floodplain Management [Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55]; Historic Preservation [National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800]; Noise Abatement and Control [Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B]; Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c).

**Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):**  
•**Coastal Barrier Resources Act:** If a property is located within a CBRS unit, consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) must occur to grant an exception or the property is not eligible for program assistance.  
•**Flood Insurance:** If a home is in a FEMA designated Special Flood Hazard Area, it will undergo further evaluation if flood insurance is required for the property or if the property is not eligible for program assistance.  
•**Coastal Zone Management:** If a home is located in a coastal zone, the grantee will consult with the state coastal commission to determine if project activities are subject to state review. The grantee will obtain a federal consistency determination from the state coastal commission detailing any necessary mitigation.  
•**Contamination and Toxic Substances:** The grantee will review publicly available records such as the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) Remediation Information Data Exchange (RIDE) database, EPA Superfund National Priorities, and CERCLA List. If evidence of contamination at the property is identified the contamination shall be mitigated or remediated under the guidance of the appropriate state agency. For homes constructed prior to 1978, the home will undergo the appropriate lead-based paint evaluation and be subject to appropriate mitigation measures to reach compliance with the HUD Lead Safe Housing Rule. An asbestos inspection will be completed in areas where renovation activities are planned. If asbestos is identified, mitigation measures will be developed to be in compliance with the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).  
•**Endangered Species:** For properties which the project activities include roofing, landscaping, or hazardous tree removal, grantees will review the endangered species listed in their area and consult with FWS if the project actions will adversely affect them.  
•**Floodplain Management:** If the project occurs in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain, the grantee must work with a floodplain specialist to determine whether the 8-step decision-making process, the 5-step decision making process, or neither process applies to be in compliance with this Executive Order.  
•**Historic Preservation:** A Section 106 review must be completed to determine the potential effect on historic properties. If the project is determined to have adverse effect on historic properties, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects. If adverse effects cannot be mitigated, the applicable party may be removed from the project.  
•**Noise Abatement and Control:** If a preliminary screening identifies potential noise generators in the vicinity of the home a noise assessment will occur. If the noise assessment documents an unacceptable noise exposure, mitigation measures will be implemented to eliminate the adverse noise impacts.  
•**Wild and Scenic Rivers:** If the home is located within a mile of a Wild and Scenic River, Study River, and/or Nationwide Rivers Inventory River, consultation with the applicable Managing Agency must occur. Mitigation measures to mitigate impact or effect of the project on the river will be required depending on the consultation with the Managing Agency. The mitigation measures will be identified through further consultation with the Managing Agency.

**Estimated Project Cost: \$11,394,000.00**

**The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at MSHDA's Lansing and Detroit offices (735 E Michigan Ave, Lansing, MI 48912 and 3028 W Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48202) and maybe examined or copied weekdays 8A.M to 5P.M.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
**Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the MSHDA Neighborhood Development Division. All comments received by March 5 will be considered by the MSHDA prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**  
**MSHDA certifies to HUD that Anthony Lentych, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Chief Housing Investment Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the regional housing partnerships in MSHDA's region F to use HUD program funds.**

**OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**  
**HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the MSHDA certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the MSHDA; (b) the MSHDA has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD at 477 Michigan Avenue, 16th Floor Detroit, Michigan 48226-2592. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.**

**Anthony Lentych, Chief Housing Investment Officer, Certifying Officer**

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